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ANNUAL

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PREMIER ISSUE

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Volume 1

LINDY'S PRO Football Annual

1987

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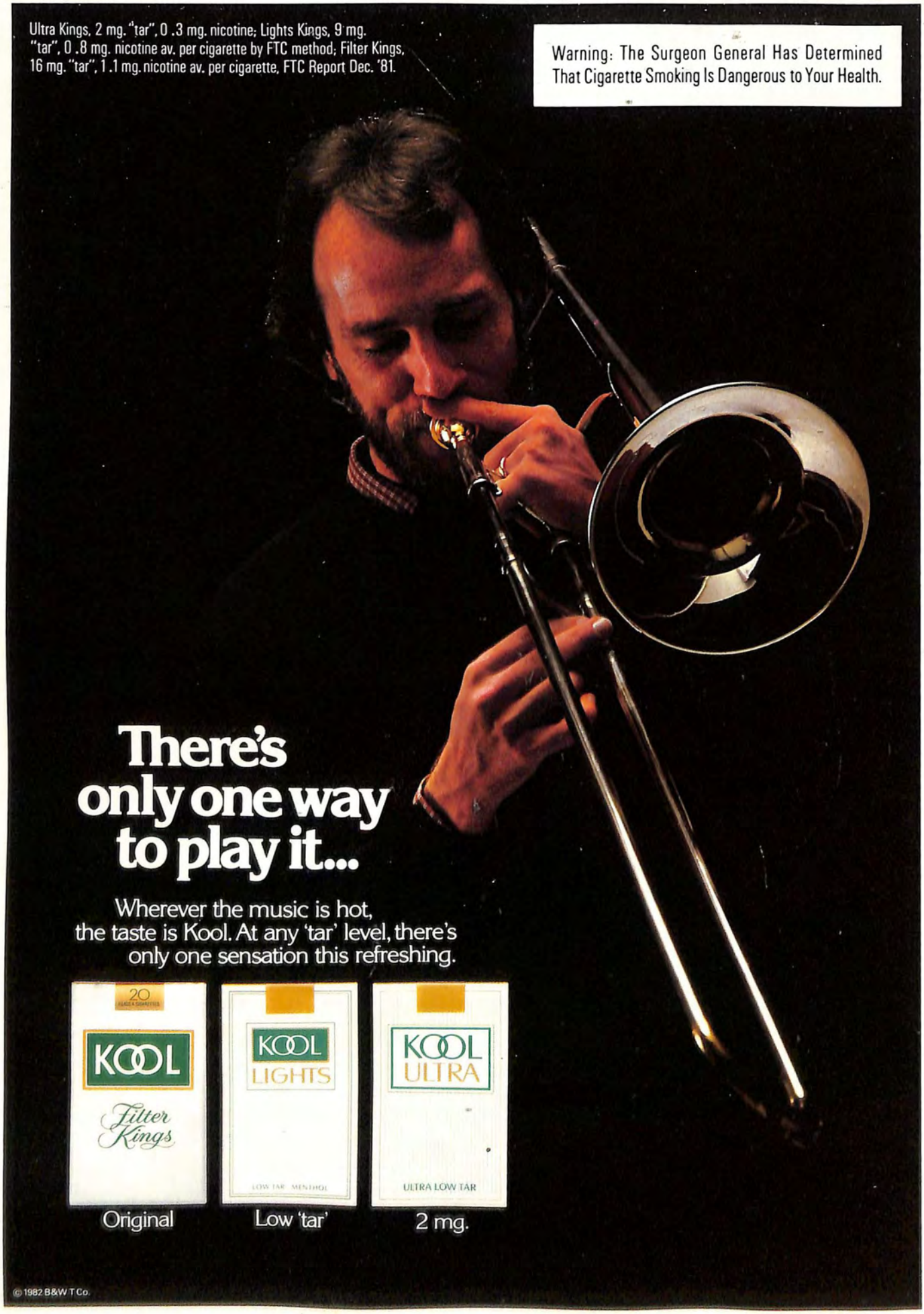

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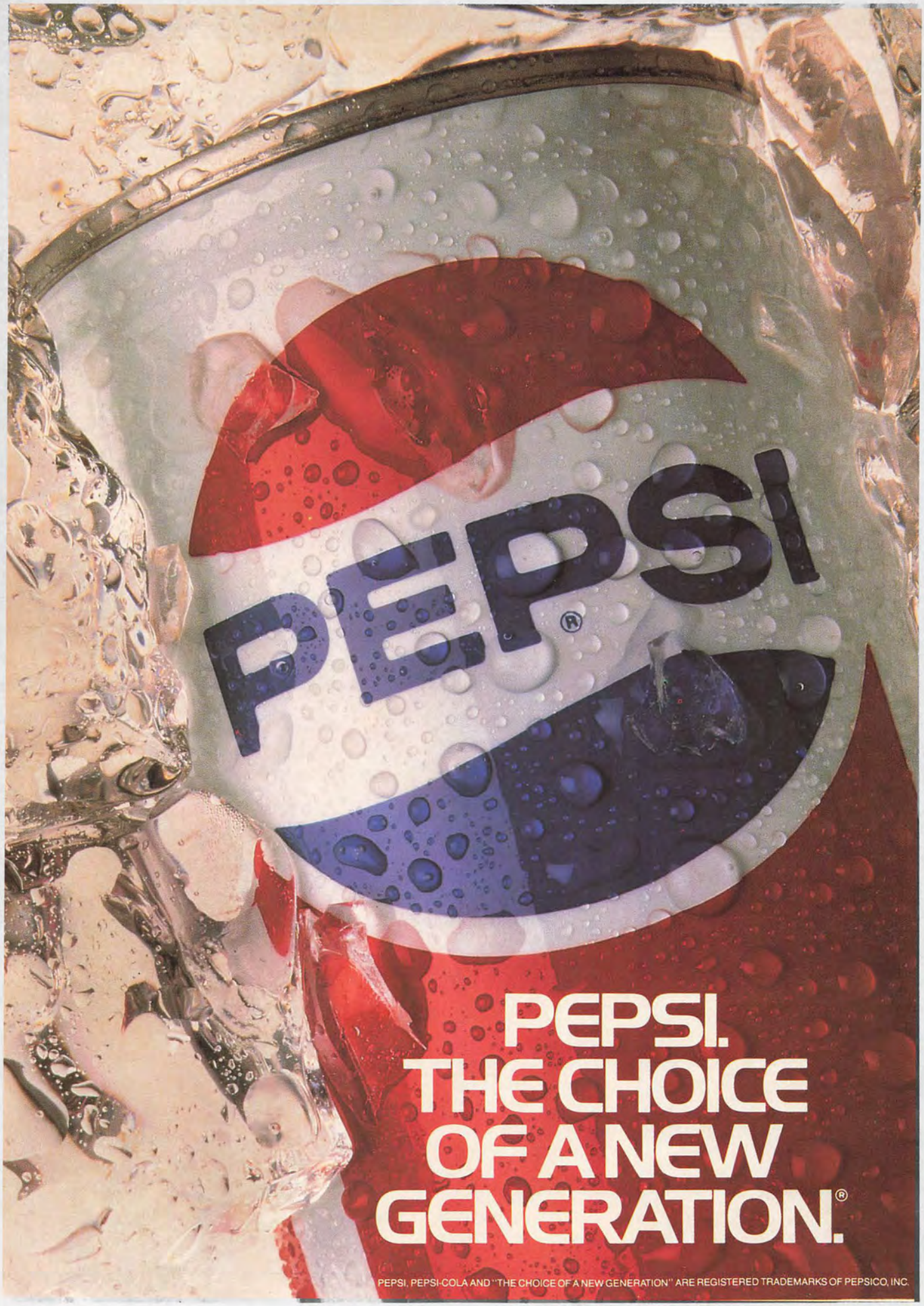
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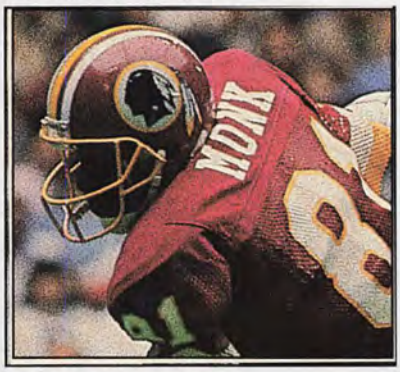

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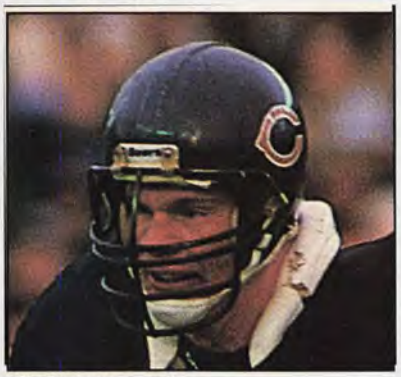

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LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

Let me say a sincere welcome to our new readers across the country. 1987 marks the inaugural issues of Lindy's Big 8, Lindy's A.C.C., Lindy's Southwest Conference, Lindy's Big 10, Lindy's Pac 10 and Lindy's Pro Football Annual. I would also like to say thank you to our loyal readers in the Southeast that have made Lindy's S.E.C. Football and Lindy's Southeastern Recruiting Guide such outstanding successes.

Lindy's Football Annuals are compiled for the serious fan—the fan who wants to know the inside on his or her favorite team and their opponents. Each story in Lindy's is individually written by someone on the scene; it is written in most cases by someone that has covered that team or particular story for years. Lindy's Annuals are replete with valuable information—the college annuals include rosters, depth charts, spring training updates and freshmen sketches on every conference team while Lindy's Pro Annual features rosters, draft bios and both team and individual statistics.

We think we have some outstanding feature stories this year—in both our college and our pro annual. Our national collegiate features include an enlightening perspective on Barry Switzer's incredible success at Oklahoma and an inside look at a man on the hot seat—Alabama's new head coach, Bill Curry. Also chronicled is Gordie Lockbaum's amazing season at Holy Cross. Who recruited the best?; just turn to Joe Terranova's national recruiting story to find out.

Our pro features are led by an inside look at recent Hall of Fame inductee, Paul Hornung, while CBS commentator Will McDonough gives his views on this year's N.F.L. draft. McDonough also looks at N.F.L. expansion plans while Tom Landry gives us his views on coaching and life.

Again, welcome to Lindy's football family. If you are interested in purchasing other editions of Lindy's, just clip and mail the order form in the back of the magazine.

Lindy Davis Jr.

Sincerely,
Lindy Davis Jr.
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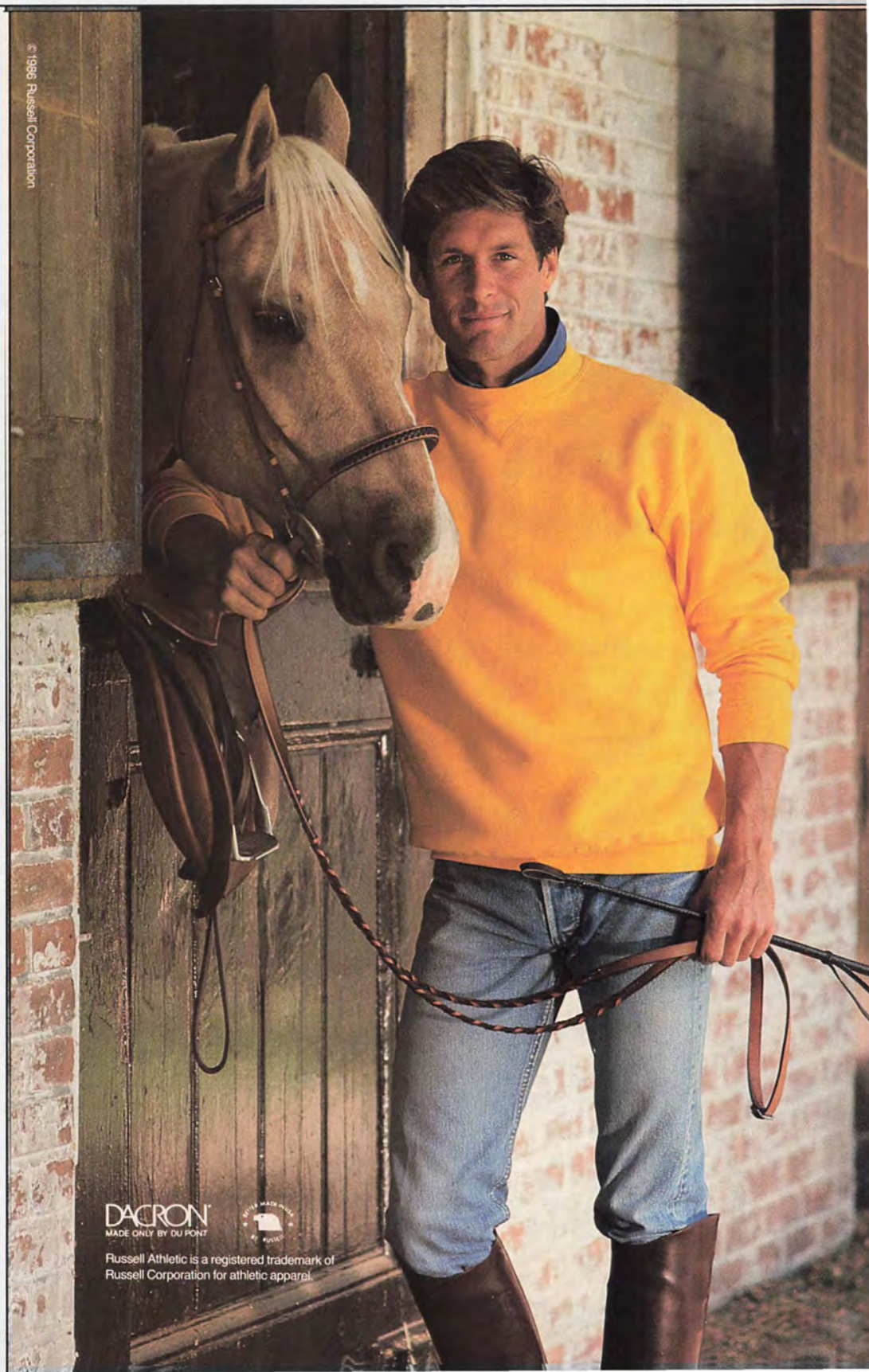
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NEW YORK GIANTS

GIANTS WANT A RING FOR BOTH HANDS

BY JUDSON HAND

The day after the New York Giants rolled over the Denver Broncos in Super Bowl XXI, 39-20, head coach Bill Parcells walked up to a podium and told the world how he felt about leading his team to its first NFL championship in 30 years.

"I think I know now what real euphoria is," Parcells said. "It's an absolutely wonderful feeling. I don't know if I'll ever be able to duplicate it."

That's the real trick, duplicating it. Hard as it is to win a Super Bowl, it's especially difficult to reach that euphoric state two years running. In the 1980s, six champions have tried and failed, including the 1985 Chicago Bears, everybody's favorite candidates for a dynasty a year ago.

"You're just in a business where the competition is very strong," says Parcells, preparing for his fifth season as Giant head coach. "Things have to go well, very well, for you to get to the top. And they have to go well consistently for you over a long period of time to stay that way."

Without doubt, last year's Giants reached heights most of their fans had never seen. They finished the regular season at 14-2, then swept three playoff games by the most lopsided margin in league history, 105-23, finishing with a club-record 12 wins in a row. They haven't lost a game at Giants Stadium since Dec. 1, 1985.

The image of the Giants as one big happy family got tarnished a few days after the Super Bowl, though. Parcells' agent, Robert Fraley, took some of the stuffing out of the celebration by asking the team for permission for his client to talk with the Atlanta Falcons about their head coaching job. The Giants refused. Will bad feelings continue between Parcells and Giant management, particularly general manager George Young and owners Wellington and Tim Mara?

It won't take long to find out if the 1987 Giants are for real. The schedule starts with a bang, featuring five clubs with a combined 1986 record of 51-28-1.

The Giants open on Monday night in Chicago, then host the Dallas Cowboys and travel to Miami to meet the Dolphins before entertaining the San Francisco 49ers and Washington Redskins. By the sixth week, it should be clear whether a winter of banquets, book projects and general ballyhoo has taken the edge off the world champions. Parcells doesn't think it has.

"They're working hard," he says. "I don't see any difference from last year. Maybe it'll be easier. Maybe they see what it takes, since they've been there."

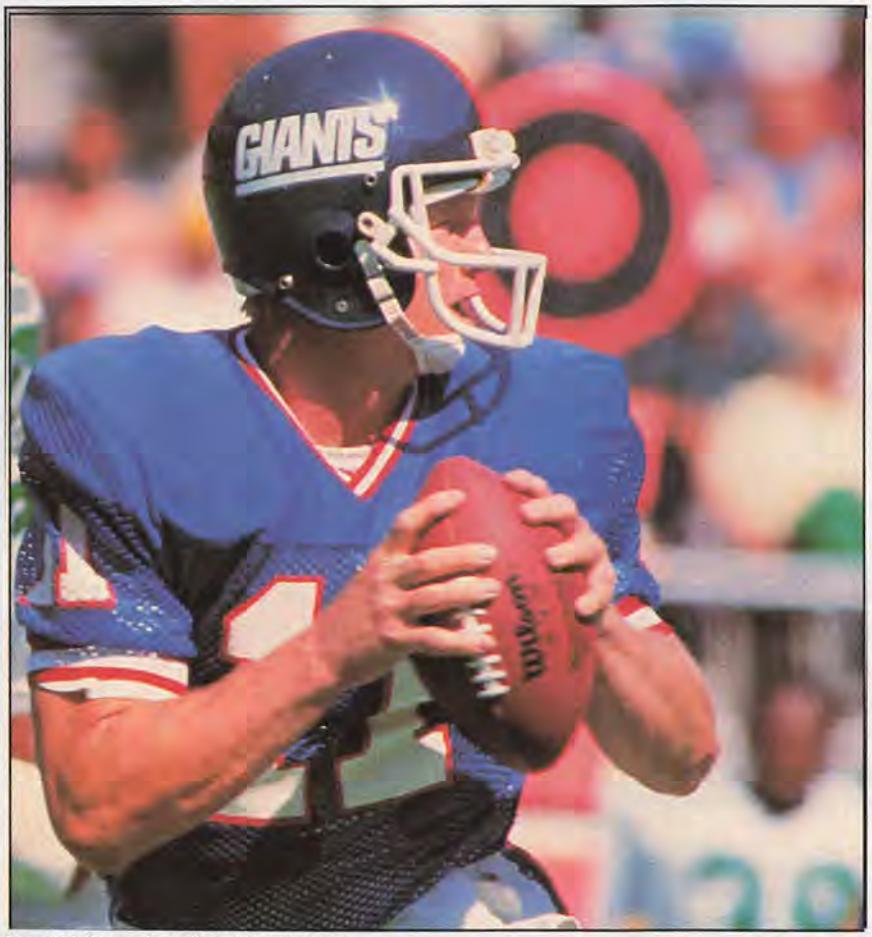
Nothing can take the shine off Phil Simms' Super Bowl performance. By completing 22 of 25 passes against Denver, Simms achieved an 88 percent completion rate unrivalled in playoff history. His amazing performance has set the standard by which future postseason quarterbacks will be judged. Health has played a big role in Simms' rise to the top. After five injury-plagued seasons at the start of his career, he has now appeared in 55 straight games over the last three seasons.

"Every year he gets a little better," says offensive coordinator Ron Erhardt. "Once he gets the right supporting cast, watch out."

That cast provided good support most of last season, except for a frustrating stretch in the middle when a rash of injuries left Simms with a less-than-adequate receiving corps. With three top pass catchers all ailing—wide receivers Lionel Manuel and Stacy Robinson and tight end Mark Bavaro—Simms' passing numbers dwindled to a trickle and the rushing of Joe Morris carried the team. By playoff time, that trio was back and Simms got red hot, throwing eight touchdowns and no interceptions in the three postseason games.

"My biggest worry is that the quarterback will get hurt," says Parcells. "I think one of the reasons why we were able to win last year was that some other teams (notably the Bears and 49ers) got some key players hurt, particularly at the quarterback position, and we didn't."

If Simms does get hurt, the backup is veteran Jeff Rutledge, who's shown poise whenever he starts a pre-season game, but hasn't started a game that counted since 1983. Third-stringer Jeff Hostetler, who has yet to throw a regular-season pass in his three seasons, is the subject of trade rumors.



Giants' Phil Simms hopes for another super year

While Simms shined in the playoffs, it was Morris who carried the club to many crucial victories in mid-season, particularly on back-to-back 181-yard performances against Washington and Dallas. With 2,852 yards and 34 touchdowns rushing and a pair of Pro Bowl appearances the last two seasons, Morris has moved among the top five backs in the league.

Behind Little Joe, however, there are some question marks. Backup halfback Lee Rouson did well in his first full season, showing a rare combination of rushing, catching and blocking skills. But he's never gained more than 71 yards in a game. Veteran Ottis Anderson has gained 8080 yards in his career, but nagging injuries the past two seasons cast doubt on his future. Fullback Maurice Carthon throws crunching blocks, but he may find himself giving way to George Adams, if Adams can recover from a chipped bone in his pelvis that shelved him for all of 1986. Tony Galbreath, the third-down specialist, may be slowing down.

Wide receiver is the Giants' Rodney Dangerfield position, garnering precious little respect. Due to injuries, the Giants last year used seven different players there, including a quarterback, Hostetler, who actually ran patterns in several games, though he didn't catch a pass. Robinson and the shifty Bobby Johnson finished the year as starters, though both were inconsistent. A sore ankle hampered Johnson, while a hamstring ailment kept Robinson out of four games in mid-season. With 4.35 speed, Robinson could be a very dangerous receiver indeed if he didn't drop so many across the middle. Manuel makes cuts as quickly as anyone, but he can't stay healthy enough to make the Pro Bowl. He missed 12 games last year with a sprained knee. Phil McConkey came off the bench for a few memorable catches, including that deflected touchdown pass from Simms in the Super Bowl. Young Solomon Miller and Vince Warren are still green.

If wide receiver is the Rodney Dangerfield spot, tight end is the Clint Eastwood position. Go ahead. Try to tackle Mark Bavaro or his backup, Zeke Mowatt. Make their day. Bavaro made the Pro Bowl by catching 66 passes and gaining 1,001 yards, while Mowatt might become a Pro Bowl candidate if he got enough playing time. Both are excellent blockers who play a key role in Morris' success.

Not too long ago, people talked about the offensive line as the Giants' weakest link. No more. With tackle Brad Benson in the Pro Bowl and the other four starters having outstanding seasons, the Giant line is one of the most consistent, if not physically overpowering, units in the league. Center Bart Oates, guards Billy Ard and Chris Godfrey and tackle Karl Nelson often played as well as Benson, though without as much attention. Benson got noticed by analyst John Madden on CBS television for his excellent blocking of the Redskins' Dexter Manley. The key backups are guard Damian Johnson and tackle William Roberts, both overpowering run blockers who need work on pass protection. Backup center Brian Johnston has outstanding strength, but needs more playing time.

If the Giants have a good offense, they have a great defense. Start with the front seven. There isn't a better one in the league. Everybody talks about the linebackers, but what about the front three of George Martin, Jim Burt and Leonard Marshall? The last two made the Pro Bowl and Martin deserved to be there. Burt will be challenged this year at nose tackle by Erik Howard, one of five rookies who made a mark last year. A nagging back problem which kept Burt out three games last year showed everybody what Howard can do. Martin will probably give way gradually to another of last year's star rookies, Eric Dorsey, at left end. Right end Leonard Marshall, with 15 1/2 sacks last year, appears set, though the club would like better performance stopping the run. Veteran linemen Curtis

New York's Harry Carson loves contact

McGriff and Jerome Sally will have trouble making the club.

Now for those linebackers. It's as though Parcells grows these big, fast, mean players in some secluded stretch of the Jersey Meadows. Every year he adds one or two more. Everybody knows about Lawrence Taylor, who won several Most Valuable Player awards last year and led the league with 20 1/2 sacks. And it won't be long before everybody's heard of Carl Banks, who probably had the best season of any player on the defense last year. And then there's the player's player on the inside, Harry Carson, with his eight Pro Bowl appearances. But what about the fourth starter, Gary Reasons, a sure tackler and smart player, or some of those talented backups? It looks as though young Pepper Johnson will be starting on the inside before long. That leaves less playing time for two gifted veterans, Andy Headen and Byron Hunt. Both have been mentioned in trade talks.

■ *continued on page 126*

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No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
2	**Allegre**, Raul	K	5-10	167	5	Texas
5	**Landeta**, Sean	P	6-0	200	3	Towson State
11	**Sims**, Phil	QB	6-3	214	9	Morehead State
15	**Hostetler**, Jeff	QB	6-3	212	4	West Virginia
17	**Rutledge**, Jeff	QB	6-1	195	9	Alabama
20	**Morris**, Joe	RB	5-7	195	6	Syracuse
22	**Rouson**, Lee	RB	6-1	222	3	Colorado
23	**Williams**, Perry	CB	6-2	203	4	North Carolina State
24	**Anderson**, Ottis	RB	6-2	225	9	Miami
25	**Collins**, Mark	CB	5-10	190	1	Cal State-Fullerton
27	**Welch**, Herb	DB	5-11	180	3	UCLA
28	**Flynn**, Tom	S	6-0	195	4	Pittsburgh
30	**Galbreath**, Tony	RB	6-0	228	12	Missouri
33	**Adams**, George	RB	6-1	225	3	Kentucky
34	**Patterson**, Elvis	CB	5-11	188	4	Kansas
39	**Davis**, Tyrone	CB	6-1	190	3	Clemson
43	**Kinard**, Terry	S	6-1	200	5	Clemson
44	**Carthon**, Maurice	RB	6-1	225	3	Arkansas State
46	**Lasker**, Greg	S	6-0	200	1	Arkansas
48	**Hill**, Kenny	S	6-0	195	7	Yale
51	**Jones**, Robbie	LB	6-2	230	4	Alabama
52	**Johnson**, Thomas	LB	6-3	248	1	Ohio State
53	**Carson**, Harry	LB	6-2	240	12	South Carolina State
54	**Headen**, Andy	LB	6-5	242	5	Clemson
55	**Reasons**, Gary	LB	6-4	234	4	N.W. Louisiana
56	**Taylor**, Lawrence	LB	6-3	243	7	North Carolina
57	**Hunt**, Byron	LB	6-5	242	7	Southern Methodist
58	**Banks**, Carl	LB	6-4	235	4	Michigan State
59	**Johnston**, Brian	C	6-3	275	2	North Carolina
60	**Benson**, Brad	T	6-3	270	10	Penn State
61	**Godfrey**, Chris	G	6-3	265	5	Michigan
63	**Nelson**, Karl	T	6-6	285	4	Iowa State
64	**Burt**, Jim	NT	6-1	260	7	Miami
65	**Oates**, Bart	C	6-3	265	3	Brigham Young
66	**Roberts**, Bill	T	6-5	280	3	Ohio State
67	**Ard**, Bill	G	6-3	270	7	Wake Forest
68	**Johnson**, Damian	G	6-5	290	2	Kansas State
69	**Jordan**, David	G	6-6	276	4	Auburn
70	**Marshall**, Leonard	DE	6-3	285	5	Louisiana State
73	**Washington**, John	DE	6-4	275	1	Oklahoma State
74	**Howard**, Erik	NT	6-4	268	1	Washington State
75	**Martin**, George	DE	6-4	255	13	Oregon
76	**McGriff**, Curtis	DE	6-5	276	8	Alabama
77	**Dorsey**, Eric	DE	6-5	280	1	Notre Dame
78	**Sally**, Jerome	NT	6-3	270	6	Missouri
80	**McConkey**, Phil	WR	5-10	170	4	Navy
81	**Robinson**, Stacy	WR	5-11	186	3	North Dakota State
84	**Mowatt**, Zeke	TE	6-3	240	4	Florida State
86	**Manuel**, Lionel	WR	5-11	180	4	Pacific
87	**Miller**, Solomon	WR	6-1	185	1	Utah State
88	**Johnson**, Bob	WR	5-11	171	4	Kansas
89	**Bavaro**, Mark	TE	6-4	245	3	Notre Dame

GIANTS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	GIANTS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	324	284
Rushing	127	78
Passing	171	177
Penalty	26	29
3rd Down: Made/Att.	85/228	75/212
4th Down: Made/Att.	10/14	2/11
TOTAL NET YARDS	5378	4757
Avg. Per Game	336.1	297.3
Total Plays	1076	996
Avg. Per Play	5.0	4.8
NET YARDS RUSHING	2245	1284
Avg. Per Game	140.3	80.3
Total Rushes	558	350
NET YARDS PASSING	3133	3473
Avg. Per Game	195.8	217.1
Tackled/Yards Lost	46/367	59/414
Gross Yards	3500	3887
Attempts/Completions	472/260	587/334
Pct. of Completions	55.1	56.9
Had Intercepted	22	24
PUNTS/AVERAGE	79/44.8	89/39.3
NET PUNTING AVG.	37.1	34.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	96/738	120/988
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	31/10	36/19
TOUCHDOWNS	42	26
Rushing	18	10
Passing	22	15
Returns	2	1

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
GIANTS	40	130	106	95	0	371
Opp. Total	39	84	37	76	0	236

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Allegre	0-0	10-11	8-8	6-11	0-2	24-32
Cooper	0-0	2-2	0-1	0-1	0-0	2-4
Thomas	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Morris	341	1516	4.4	54	14
Carthon	72	260	3.6	12	0
Anderson	75	237	3.2	16	3

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bavaro	66	1001	15.2	41	4
Galbreath	33	268	8.1	19	0
B.Johnson	31	534	17.2	44t	5
Robinson	29	494	17.0	49	2
Morris	21	233	11.1	23	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Kinard	4	52	13.0	25	0
Williams	4	31	7.8	15	0
Hill	3	25	8.3	23	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Landeta	79	3539	44.8	11	24	61	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McConkey	32	12	253	7.9	22	0
Collins	3	1	11	3.7	6	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McConkey	24	471	19.6	27	0
Collins	11	204	18.5	26	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Simms	468	259	3487	55.3	7.45	21	4.5	22	4.7	49	45/359	74.6
Rutledge	3	1	13	33.3	4.33	1	33.3	0	0.0	t13	0/0	87.5

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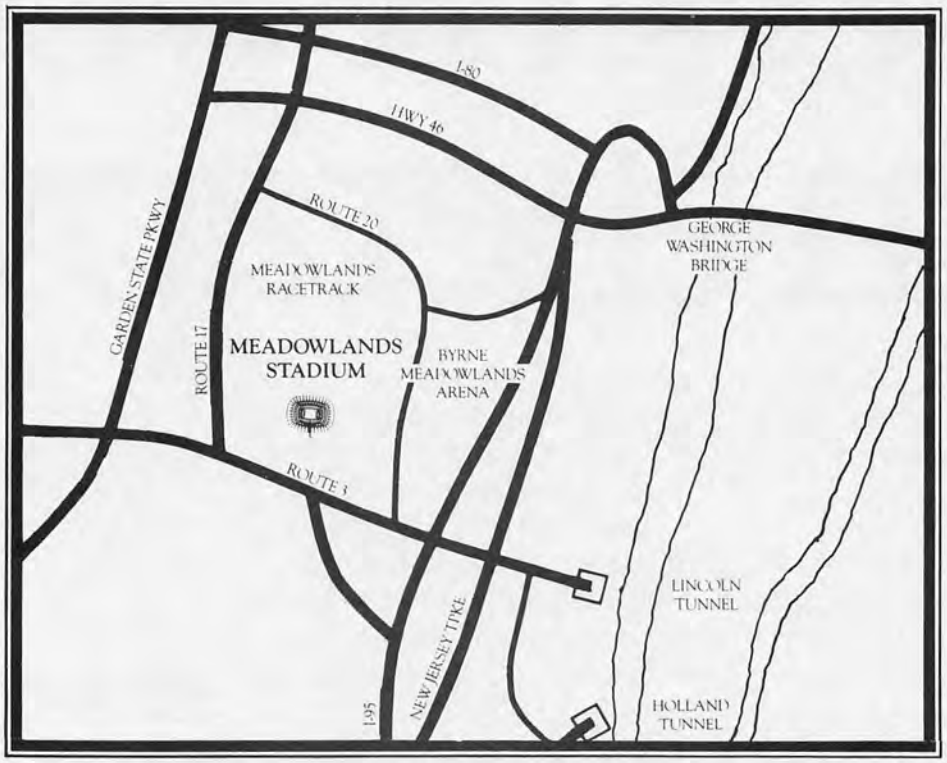
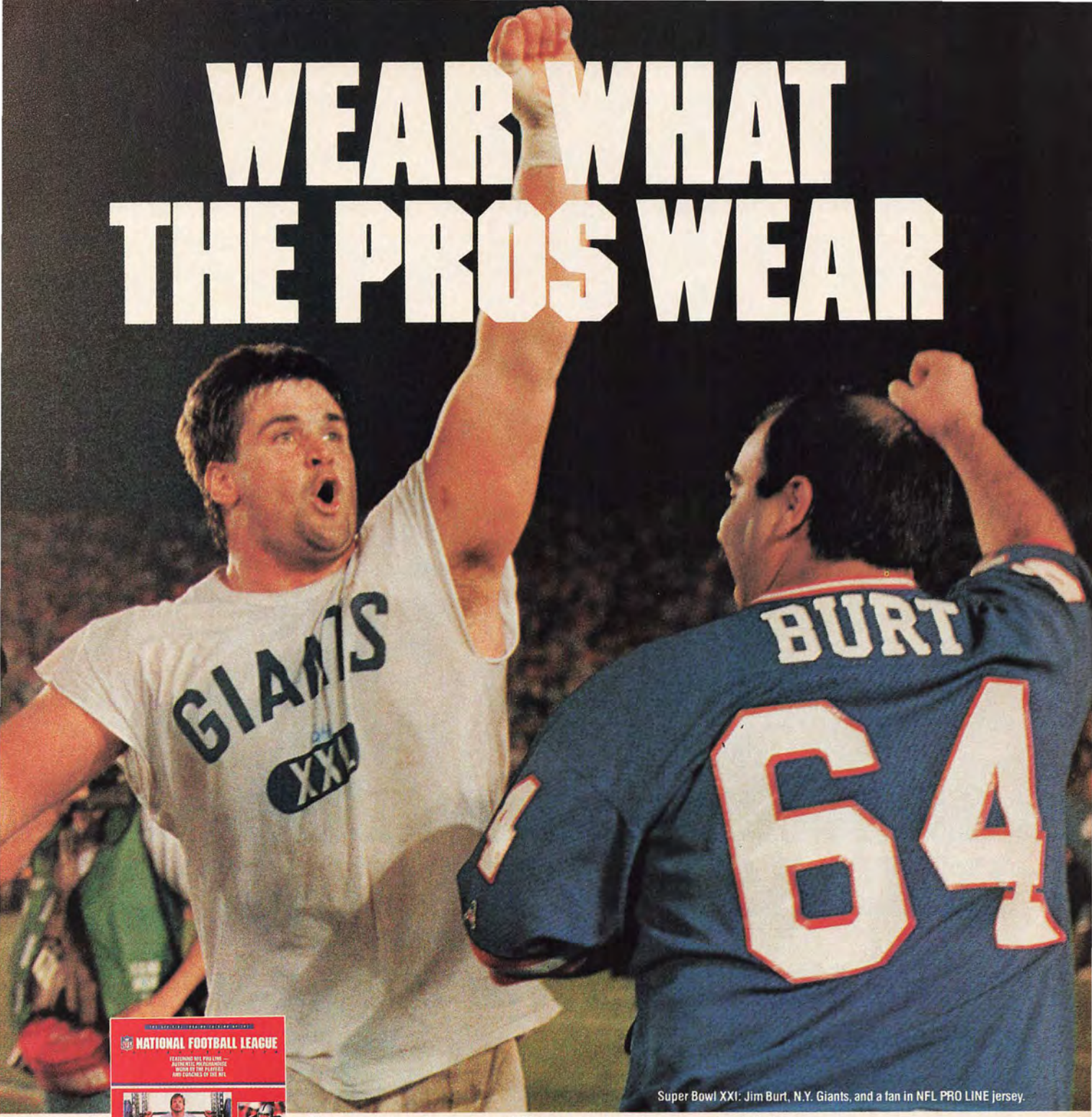
EASTERN

GIANTS DRAFT

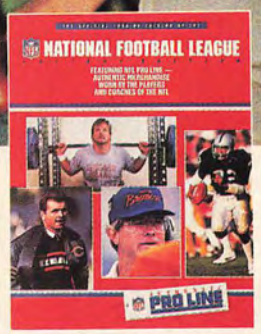
Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Mark **INGRAM** *WR*	5-11, 188	**Michigan St.**	'86 second team All-Big 10...caught 35 passes for 672 yds. (19.2 avg.) & 5 TD's, carried ball 12 times for 112 yds.
2	Adrian **WHITE** *FS*	6-0, 200	**Florida**	'86 first team All-SEC...62 tackles (47 solos)...1 fmb. cau. & 2 fmb. rec...4 pass deflections & 3 int's.
3	Stephen **BAKER** *WR*	5-7, 160	**Fresno St.**	'86 All-PCAA...33 recpts. for 785 yds. & 7 TD's, returned 41 punts for 411 yds. & 2 TD's in Japan Bowl...named game's offensive MVP.
4	Odessa **TURNER** *WR-FS*	6-3, 205	**Northwestern Louisiana**	'86 unanimous first team All-Gulf Star Conf. selection at free safety...had 62 tackles, 2 sacks...2 fmb. cau., deflected 7 passes & 4 int's... caught 10 passes for 136 yds. & a TD.
5	Paul **O'CONNOR** *OG*	6-3, 274	**Miami**	'86 All-South selection by the AP...a 90% blocking grade.
6A	Tim **RICHARDSON** *RB*	6-0, 215	**Pacific**	'86 rushed 129 times for 691 yds...4 TD's
6B	Doug **RIESENBERG** *OT*	6-5, 270	**California**	Made transition to offensive tackle...'86 All-PAC 10 Conf. Hon. Men...received a 90% blocking grade.
8	Rod **JONES** *TE*	6-4, 240	**Washington**	'86 first team All-PAC 10 Conf....second on team with 31 recpts. for 309 yds. (10.0 avg.) & 5 TD's.
9A	Stan **PARKER** *OG*	6-5, 276	**Nebraska**	'86 team's best blocker receiving a 94% blocking grade on the year...All-Big 8 Conf. Hon. Men.
9B	Dana **WRIGHT** *HB*	6-2, 214	**Findlay College**	'86 first team NAIA All-American...led team in rushing with 896 yds. on 180 carries (5.0 avg.) & 11 TD's in 9 games.
10	Chuck **FAUCETTE** *MLB*	6-2, 238	**Maryland**	'86 first team All-ACC...151 tackles (97 solos), 4 for losses of 21 yds...1 fmb. rec, 5 deflected passes & 3 int's.
11	Dave **WALTER** *QB,*	6-3, 225	**Michigan Tech**	'86 All-GLIAC...comp. 163 of 349 passes for 2,131 yds. & 17 TD's, 17 int's.
12A	Bill **BERTHUSEN** *DT*	6-5, 285	**Iowa St.**	'86...73 tackles (47 solos), 4 sacks, 2 passes broken up, 1 fmb. cau. & 1 fmb. rec.
12B	Chad **STARK** *RB*	6-2, 232	**No. Dakota St.**	'86 rushed 126 times for 1,022 yds. & 10 TD's (8.1 avg per carry).



WEAR WHAT THE PROS WEAR



Super Bowl XXI: Jim Burt, N.Y. Giants, and a fan in NFL PRO LINE jersey.



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DALLAS vs WASHINGTON

THE MOST INTENSE RIVALRY IN THE SPORT

BY VITO STELLINO

Roger Staubach had a football career that would have made Frank Merriwell blush. He was a Lancelot in cleats who became known as America's Quarterback when his legendary exploits helped make the Dallas Cowboys America's Team in the 1970s.

Yet Staubach wasn't a mythical figure when it came time for the Cowboys to play the Washington Redskins. He was caught up in the fire of the rivalry just like any other player.

"I didn't like the Redskins and they didn't like me," Staubach says. "It wasn't a fake deal."

Staubach has been retired since 1979 and he has been elected into the Pro Football Hall of Fame and he has nothing to prove—except to the Redskins.

That's how intense the Washington-Dallas rivalry is.

The embers may have banked a bit because George Allen is no longer around to keep it stoked with his psychological plays and the New York Giants are now the best team in their division, but the legacy of the rivalry doesn't fade away.

When Washington plays Dallas, the emotions are always high. Over the last 15 years, it can be argued that it has been the most intense rivalry in the sport.

Cliff Harris, the retired Cowboy safety, says, "There was no greater thrill than to beat Washington in Washington. There's nothing like running out into RFK dodging beer cans

as you go through the tunnel. There's no place that compares to the intensity of the crowd at RFK. You can feel how much the fans dislike you.''

That's why Harris used to savor the victories there. ''There's nothing better than quieting an emotional crowd. There's nothing better than to look up and see them sitting on their hands in the fourth quarter after you've beaten them. When I'm 80 years old and look back on my career, the memories that stick in my mind won't be the Super Bowl but the Washington games in Washington,'' Harris said.

Staubach always managed to be in the middle of it because he was the Cowboy quarterback when the Redskins became a contender under Allen.

In the words of Cowboy president Tex Schramm, Allen ''added the Tabasco'' to the rivalry. He did his best to fire up the Redskins for the Cowboys.

But it was a seemingly innocuous remark by Diron Talbert, a former Redskin lineman, after the Redskins beat the Cowboys in the NFC title game, 26-3, in 1972 to qualify for the Super Bowl for the first time, that did the most to stir Staubach's soul.

The previous week, Staubach, who had been injured much of the season and played in just four games, pulled off one of his patented comebacks that was destined to become his trademark. He came off the bench and threw two touchdown passes in the last two minutes to wipe out a 38-16 deficit and give the Cowboys a 30-28 playoff victory over San Francisco.

Coach Tom Landry was so impressed with that comeback in a relief role that he decided to start Staubach over Craig Morton against the Redskins with the Super Bowl berth on the line. Alas, Staubach had run out of miracles, the Cowboys managed only a field goal and were soundly beaten.

In the celebration after the game, Talbert said, ''I'm awfully glad they did (start Staubach). I thought the other guy would have done a better job.''

That wasn't exactly a controversial opinion. A lot of football people felt Staubach was rusty after seeing so little action during the year.

Staubach disagreed, and wars have started over less.

''They used to get under Roger's skin,'' Harris said. ''To this day, he is bothered by it.''

When Staubach was named to the Hall of Fame in 1985, he couldn't help remembering it.

''That kind of got my goat,'' he said. ''I didn't think I played a bad game. I didn't have any turnovers, and I was our leading rusher. They just totally stopped our running game. They just beat us.''

There was no greater thrill than to beat Washington in Washington. There's nothing like running out into RFK dodging beer cans as you go through the tunnel.

He said he didn't like the suggestion that the Cowboys started the wrong quarterback, even if he had been hurt most of the year. ''That was just a personal shot,'' Staubach said. ''It made me very determined the rest of my career against Washington. It fired me up. We never lost another critical game to them, but I don't know if that had anything to do with it.''

Staubach will never concede that the Redskins ever beat him again in a ''critical'' game after that 1972 playoff battle.

The Redskins did beat Dallas in the 1976 regular season finals to clinch a wild card spot, but Staubach won't define that one as ''critical'' for the Cowboys because they had already clinched the division title.

The teams wound up splitting every year except in 1977—when Dallas won both games—until Staubach retired after the 1979 season, but Staubach's pride won't let him label any of the losses as ''critical.''

By a quirk of fate, the teams never met in the playoffs against each other after 1972 until 1982 after Staubach had retired.

Staubach could get so riled at the Redskins that he threw a punch at Redskin cornerback Pat Fischer during a 1975 game after he threw a pass that Ken Houston intercepted. ''A stupid play on my part,'' Staubach said. ''It wasn't necessary for Fischer to block me out after the play, but it was legal. I just hit back.''

Even when Staubach made an exit during the 1970s, it could set up a moment of drama. He was knocked out in the third quarter on Thanksgiving Day in 1974. A rookie named Clint Longley was sent in the game. All he did was throw two touchdown passes including a 50-yarder to Drew Pearson with 33 seconds left in the game to give the Cowboys a 24-23 victory.

Longley was not destined for a long career with the Cowboys or in the NFL. He was dispatched by the Cowboys two years later after taking a punch at Staubach and quickly faded out of the league.

But that one pass made him part of the lore of the Redskin-Cowboy rivalry. It turned out the Longley pass was the most exciting finish to one of these games until Staubach played his final regular season game in 1979. It was only fitting that it was against the Redskins and that the Cowboys were behind 34-21 with two minutes left. Staubach threw two touchdowns passes in the final two minutes to pull out a 35-34 victory.

It was a game that has affected Redskin fortunes to this day. John Riggins, perhaps devastated by that frustrating loss, got into a contract hassle the next season and set out the year. Without him, the Redskins went 6-10 and coach Jack Pardee was fired.

Staubach still remembers that game vividly. ''I've been in so many close games, but that one was special,'' he

says. ''The game swung both ways from the beginning to the end. There were dramatic moments the entire fourth quarter. Because it was Washington and the way it went, I'd have to say it was one of the most exciting games I've ever played.''

The game not only cost the Redskins the division title, but it knocked them out of the playoff race.

When something sudden like that happens after (you think) you've already won the game, I can see how it would affect someone. But unlike Riggins, I would never have allowed it to affect me so much that I'd retire. I know there were other factors in his decision. If I had lost that game, it would have made me want to come back the next year even more,'' Staubach said.

After Pardee was fired, Joe Gibbs was brought in as head coach and the rivalry changed. Gibbs believes in a more low-key approach. He doesn't like to antagonize his rivals.

On the field, though, he added another dimension to it. By 1982, the Cowboys and the Redskins were again meeting in the NFC title game for a berth in the Super Bowl.

The baton had passed to Danny White after Staubach retired and he had lost the NFC title game in 1980 to the Eagles and 1981 to the 49ers. The Cowboy fans were getting impatient.

The Cowboys fell behind 14-3 near halftime when White was knocked out by a jarring hit by Dexter Manley.

Gary Hogeboom came in to play the second half, a game that was destined to haunt the Cowboys for three seasons.

Hogeboom brought the Cowboys to within 21-17 before he threw two costly interceptions. The Redskins won 31-17 and went on to win the Super Bowl.

Hogeboom's interceptions were forgotten but the memory of his comeback lingered on. The Cowboy fans, frustrated because White wasn't another Staubach (who was?), started clamoring for Hogeboom.

The team split in factions and became riddled by dissension. Things became

so bad that Landry felt he had to start Hogeboom in 1985 to find out if he was more that just the fans' favorite. It turned out he wasn't. He wasn't effective and was shipped to Indianapolis in 1986.But the White-Hogeboom debate virtually paralyzed the Cowboy team for three years. It was just another product of the Redskin-Cowboy rivalry.

White was destined to have his moment in the rivalry in the 1983 opener, a Monday night game in which Washington jumped to a 23-3 halftime lead only to have White bring the Cowboys back to a 31-30 victory.

But in the rematch in Dallas—with both teams at 12-2—the Redskins won easily, 31-10, and went on to make their second straight Super Bowl trip. The game turned on an ill-advised decision by White to go for it on fourth-and-two at midfield in the third quarter with the Cowboys trailing 14-10. The Cowboys were stopped, Joe Theismann took over and quickly threw a 43-yard pass to Ark Monk and the Redskins were in command, 21-10.

In 1984, it was Theismann's turn for the memorable comeback. This time, the Redskins trailed 21-6 at halftime, but they came back to win, 30-28.

That would turn out to be Theismann's last victory over the Cowboys, who swept the Redskins in his final season in 1985 before his career was ended with a broken leg.

With his feisty style, Theismann always added a certain panache to the rivalry. Over the years, the Cowboys called him, among other things, a "hot dog."

Things heated up a bit more before the 1985 opener when a letter from a man named "Tom Whidby" of Vienna, Virginia, appeared in the Cowboys' weekly.

It said that when he recently opened another restaurant in Vienna, Theismann made several inflammatory remarks about the Cowboys. Among other things, Theismann supposedly said, "When we play the Cowboys on opening day, it will be the fourth time in a row that we whipped them. When they come to Washington later this year, we'll make it five in a row. The Cowboys' key players are over the hill." He also said that White had "panicked" during the Redskins' comeback victory in 1984.

Gibbs all but went bonkers when he saw the letter. He was worried that it would fire up the Cowboys. He quickly had his staff check and found there is nobody named Tom Whidby residing in the Washington area.

> ***. . . All's fair in love, war and the Cowboy-Redskin rivalry.***

Gibbs wrote an open letter to the news media in Dallas and Washington in which he said, "We must point out this letter is full of obvious falsehoods that Joe Theismann never made, as well as the fact that Theismann has not even opened up a new restaurant...It is appalling to us that the Cowboys Weekly would publish such damaging, libelous remarks without conducting any standard research expected of such a publication...And if there is a Mr. Whidby, would he kindly step forward so blame can be pointed in the right direction."

Mr. Whidby never stepped forward and the response from Steve Perkins, editor of the weekly, was that the letter came in the mail and he felt it was legitimate. Perkins added, "As much as Theismann talks, I don't really think it's possible to libel him."

Just chalk it up as another in the long list of incidents that have marked the rivalry.

It brought back memories of Dallas' 1979 come-from-behind victory when Harvey Martin threw a funeral wreath in the Washington clubhouse after the game. The wreath was sent to him with a card "from Washington." It later turned out that a Dallas fan sent it to Martin to fire him up. Martin later apologized for tossing the wreath, but all's fair in love, war and the Cowboy-Redskin rivalry.

The Cowboys got the last laugh after the Whidby letter when they intercepted five Theismann passes and routed the Redskins, 44-14, on a Monday night game. It just happened to be Theismann's 36th birthday and the Dallas fans serenaded him after they had it wrapped up.

Harris summed up the Cowboy feelings about Theismann after that game when he said, "I'd love to be 26, in great shape and healthy and be able to take one good shot at Joe Theismann. That's all I want."

The two teams split routs in 1986 with the Cowboys winning in Dallas, 30-6, and the Redskins winning in Washington, 41-14, so there weren't any dramatic finishes.

There is even some fear that the rivalry may lose a bit of its luster now that Gibbs is running the Redskins. He tries to keep the fires banked although he was quick to respond to the Whidby letter when he felt the Cowboys might use it as an incentive.

Former Cowboy receiver Drew Pearson says, "There's not as much extracurricular stuff going on. It was a lot more fun back then. I miss it."

Landry doesn't seem to miss it. "George Allen liked to create controversy. But I don't think anybody really likes it when it's all stirred up and a lot of things are being said," Landry said.

But all it'll take is another close game to get the juices flowing on both sides.

When Pardee was coaching the Redskins in 1979, he ordered Mark Moseley to kick a 45-yard field goal with nine seconds left in a 34-20 victory over the Cowboys.

When Pardee was asked if the late field goal might cause some bad blood between the teams, he said, "There's not too much good blood there to begin with."

There never is in the Dallas-Washington rivalry.□

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

GIBBS MORE COMFORTABLE GOING INTO THE 1987 SEASON

BY VITO STELLINO

After the Washington Redskins were thrashed for the third time by the New York Giants in the NFC title game last January, they became instant Giant fans.

There wasn't a team pulling harder for the Giants in the Super Bowl than the Redskins were.

That's because the Redskins hope the Giants were fattened up for the kill in 1987 by their success in 1986.

"We're really going to look forward to next year," defensive end Charles Mann said after the Giants blanked the Redskins 17-0 in the NFL title game.

"The best thing that could happen for us now is for the Giants to win the Super Bowl. I'm dead serious. We don't want them to lose and come back hungry and mad next year. Let them win and get all those New York endorsements and TV shows, just like the Bears did," Mann said.

The Redskins were smiling when the Giants routed the Broncos, 39-20, in the Super Bowl.

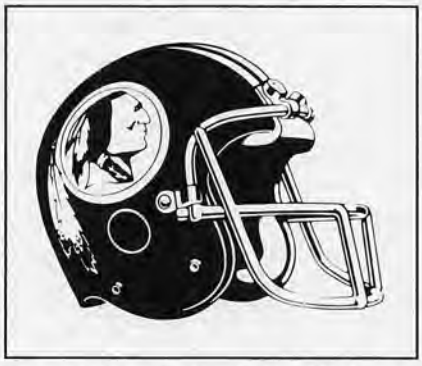
They think it's their turn now in 1987. They knocked the Bears out of the playoffs in 1986 when the Bears were defending champions and they'd like to do the same thing to the Giants in 1987.

Bobby Beathard, the team's general manager, says, "You hope they become complacent like the other Super Bowl teams, but you can't count on that."

The reason the Redskins hope the Giants become a bit complacent is that they've lost five out of six games to the Giants. The Giants were obviously the better team in 1986 when they went 3-0 against the Redskins.

But the Redskins were a young team in transition last year, getting use to life without John Riggins and Joe Theismann. The Redskins hope they improve a notch and the Giants suffer from complacency and fall back a notch.

Washington coach Joe Gibbs said, "We were a notch away last year. We've got to find a way through hard work to take that next step. We were 18 points



from going to the Super Bowl last year. Somewhere, we've got to come up with that 18 points to go to the Super Bowl."

Gibbs finished last year with 12 newcomers on the team and had as many as 14 before USFL refugees Derek Holloway and Clarence Verdin were injured.

"Those young guys really added something to us," Gibbs said. "The guys who've been here, I felt like they did their job of leading. We kind of meshed those two together and I felt like we added up to a team that played its heart out."

Gibbs admits he feels "more comfortable" going into the 1987 season than he did going into the 1986 season. Gibbs didn't know how the team would react to all the changes a year ago.

"Like everybody else, I was unsure," he said. "It was the biggest change we've had since I've been here. We had some of those guys who had led us to those Super Bowls who were no longer with us. We had a lot of young guys and the USFL guys. The way all that took place, it was like a whirlwind of things that happened. I was sitting there saying, 'I don't know what to expect.' Now, I feel more comfortable about who's going to be playing what. I don't think there's going to be as many question marks for me."

There are obviously no question marks at quarterback where Jay Schroeder proved he is ready to take his place with Sammy Baugh, Sonny Jurgensen, Billy Kilmer and Theismann as the latest in a long line of excellent Redskin quarterbacks. He showed unusual poise for a player who started just one game in college before taking a fling in baseball. He set a Redskin record by passing for 4,109 yards.

"I think everybody was wondering over the long haul how he would do, do we have a quarterback who can take us to the Super Bowl?" Gibbs said. "Through the process of this year, I think there's not a player here who doesn't feel like Jay can do that, and I feel the same way."

Schroeder was thrust into the lineup in the 11th game of the 1985 season when Theismann's career was ended with a broken leg. All he did was guide the Redskins to a 5-1 record including a victory over the Giants in the final six games of that season, followed by a 12-4 regular season record and a wild card play-off berth in 1986.

Washington's Dexter Manley meets quarterbacks head on

Schroeder piloted a high octane offense that featured the running of George Rogers and Kelvin Bryant and the receiving of Art Monk and Gary Clark.

The Redskins like to use Rogers for the heavy-duty running roles and bring Bryant in on the third down situations when he's a threat both to catch the ball and to break loose on a run when the defense is set for the pass.

Bryant never reached his top effectiveness because he didn't join the team until August after the USFL folded and then he was sidelined most of the first half of the season with a knee injury.

"We haven't seen the Kelvin Bryant that we saw at North Carolina and in the USFL," Beathard said. The Redskins expect to see the real Bryant this year.

Even though he played barely more than half the season, Bryant caught 43 passes for 449 yards and ran 69 times for 258 yards. The Redskins, who signed him to a four-year $3.7 million pact last year, expect him to do more this year.

Rogers was the sixth leading rusher in the NFC with 1203 yards, but the Redskins weren't happy with their running game because they ranked next-to-last in the NFC in team rushing.

Rogers blamed himself for "not breaking tackles" and for being "hot and cold" during the season. The Redskins are traditionally a running team under Gibbs and should be putting more emphasis on the running game this year.

Clark and Monk, who caught 74 and 73 passes, gave the Redskins the game's best 1-2 receiving punch.

Although he dropped a critical pass in the play-off loss to the Giants, Clark was a key performer all year and was often Schroeder's favorite target.

Monk wound up having a good season although he wasn't as spectacular as he has been in past seasons. "He dropped more balls last year and that's not his history," Gibbs said.

Monk said, "It's hard to really put a finger on. I've been trying to think about why (he dropped some passes) myself. Jay throws the ball a lot harder than what I've been used to, but I really can't make any excuses."

But the bottom line is that Clark and Monk combined to catch 147 passes last year and are as dangerous as any combo in the league.

The Redskins used a two tight-end alignment in their one-back offense. Don Warren is the blocking tight end while Clint Didier is a good receiver. The Redskins, though, will be looking for depth at the tight end position because backup Anthony Jones went out with a knee injury in Denver near the end of last season and isn't expected to be ready at the start of this season.

The Redskin offensive line—noted as the Hogs—has been one of the strong points of the team since Gibbs took over. But they weren't as effective last year as they had been in past seasons.

"The Hogs have been disappointing," Beathard said. "They weren't the dominating offensive line they were in past years. They still go to banquets and get all the notoriety, but right now they're just another offensive line."

The one Hog who is in danger of losing his job is Russ Grimm, the left guard who made the Pro Bowl mainly on his reputation last year. Raleigh McKenzie will be challenging him for a job.

Joe Jacoby will be back at left tackle with Jeff Bostic at center, R. C. Thielemann at right guard and Mark May at right tackle.

All of them except May have made the Pro Bowl at one time or the other but they'll have to bounce back if the Redskins are to be as effective running the ball as they were in the Riggins' heyday.

On defense, the Redskins still use the traditional 4-3 defense with Dexter Manley and Charles Mann at the end slots and Dave Butz and Darryl Grant at tackles.

But there are question marks about the line coming into this season. Manley checked into an alcohol and drug rehab center in March for treatment of an alcohol and cocaine problem.

Although Manley made the Pro Bowl for the first time while gaining 18 sacks last year, he slumped at the end of the season. He didn't get a sack in the team's three play-off games and got just one-half sack in the final six games.

"He tailed off," defensive coordinator Richie Petitbon said. "That's something that has to be of concern. The last part of the season was not a good one for him. But Dexter's capable of playing great football."

Manley has to prove he can make a comeback from his off-the-field problems so he'll go into the season as a question mark.

The Redskins also aren't sure if veteran Dave Butz will return at tackle at age 37 this year. "We want him back," Beathard said. They think he still can do the job.

The odds are that Butz, whose contract expired at the end of last season, will return, but they have to start looking at the future at this position. That is why Markus Koch, the Redskins' top draft pick a year ago, will be moved from end to tackle this year.

The Redskins are showing a bit of age at linebacker where Monte Coleman, Neal Olkewicz and Rich Milot are the returning starters and Mel Kaufman is coming back after rupturing an Achilles' tendon last year. Kaufman is in his seventh season while the other three players are starting their ninth season.

"We weren't as consistent last year," Milot admitted. "We are getting older as a group." The Redskins are going to have to start working some young players in at the linebacking corps. Three rookies on the injured reserve list last year, Anthony Copeland, Ravin Caldwell and Kurt Gouveia, will have a shot this year.

In the secondary, Darrell Green is an All-Pro at one cornerback but Vernon Dean has been inconsistent at the other corner and rookie Tim Morrison got a shot at the job at the end of the season.

Curtis Jordan is starting to show some age at 33 at one safety spot while Alvin Walton moved into the other safety slot as a rookie last season and showed a lot of potential.

Steve Cox handles the punting chores for the team but the team used three different field goal kickers last year. After Mark Moseley lost his touch, they brought in Max Zendejas. He was placed on the injured reserve list with a sore leg after missing five extra points. Jess Atkinson then came in and kicked well the final regular season game. Atkinson will be favored to win the job in camp.

The Redskins have a solid team that should make a push for the Super Bowl —if the Giants become just a bit complacent.□

Redskins' WR Art Monk has sure hands

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Atkinson**, Jess	K	5-9	168	2	Maryland
10	**Schroeder**, Jay	QB	6-4	215	4	UCLA
12	**Cox**, Steve	P	6-4	200	7	Arkansas
17	**Williams**, Doug	QB	6-4	215	7	Grambling
22	**Jordan**, Curtis	FS	6-2	205	11	Texas Tech
23	**Bowles**, Todd	FS	6-2	203	1	Temple
24	**Bryant**, Kelvin	RB	6-2	195	2	North Carolina
26	**Badanjek**, Rick	RB	5-9	222	1	Maryland
28	**Green**, Darrell	CB	5-8	170	5	Texas A&I
29	**Branch**, Reggie	RB	5-11	227	2	East Carolina
30	**Garner**, Dwight	RB	5-8	183	1	California
32	**Dean**, Vernon	CB	5-11	178	6	San Diego State
35	**Griffin**, Keith	RB	5-8	185	4	Miami
38	**Rogers**, George	RB	6-2	229	7	South Carolina
40	**Walton**, Alvin	SS	6-0	180	1	Kansas
41	**Morrison**, Tim	CB	6-1	195	1	North Carolina
45	**Wilburn**, Barry	CB	6-3	185	3	Mississippi
46	**Sanders**, Ricky	RB	5-11	180	1	S.W. Texas State
48	**Coffey**, Ken	SS	6-0	190	4	S.W. Texas State
51	**Coleman**, Monte	OLB	6-2	230	9	Central Arkansas
52	**Olkewicz**, Neal	MLB	6-0	233	9	Maryland
53	**Bostic**, Jeff	C	6-2	260	8	Clemson
55	**Kaufman**, Mel	OLB	6-2	215	7	Cal Poly-Obispo
56	**Daniels**, Calvin	LB	6-3	241	6	North Carolina
57	**Milot**, Rich	OLB	6-4	237	9	Penn State
58	**Burks**, Shawn	MLB	6-1	230	1	Louisiana State
60	**McQuaid**, Dan	T	6-7	278	3	Nevada-Las Vegas
63	**McKenzie**, Raleigh	G	6-2	261	3	Tennessee
64	**Hamilton**, Steve	DE	6-4	265	3	East Carolina
65	**Butz**, Dave	DT	6-7	297	14	Purdue
66	**Jacoby**, Joe	T	6-7	305	7	Louisville
67	**Beasley**, Tom	DE	6-5	248	10	Virginia Tech
68	**Grimm**, Russ	G	6-3	275	7	Pittsburgh
69	**Thielemann**, R.C.	G	6-4	262	11	Arkansas
71	**Mann**, Charles	DE	6-6	270	5	Nevada-Reno
72	**Manley**, Dexter	DE	6-3	250	7	Oklahoma State
73	**May**, Mark	T	6-6	295	7	Pittsburgh
74	**Koch**, Markus	DE	6-5	275	1	Boise State
76	**Tilton**, Ronald	G	6-4	259	1	Tulane
77	**Grant**, Darryl	DT	6-1	275	7	Rice
78	**Hamel**, Dean	DT	6-3	275	3	Tulsa
80	**Yarber**, Eric	WR	5-8	156	1	Idaho
81	**Monk**, Art	WR	6-3	209	8	Syracuse
82	**Jones**, Anthony	TE	6-3	248	3	Wichita State
84	**Clark**, Gary	WR	5-9	173	2	James Madison
85	**Warren**, Don	TE	6-4	242	8	San Diego State
86	**Didier**, Clint	TE	6-5	240	5	Portland State
87	**Orr**, Terry	TE	6-2	230	2	Texas

REDSKINS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	REDSKINS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	312	316
Rushing	112	103
Passing	177	181
Penalty	23	32
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	92/220 41.8%	72/217 33.2%
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	5/9 55.0%	6/14 42.9%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5601	5297
Avg. Per Game	350.1	331.1
Total Plays	1044	1046
Avg. Per Play	5.4	5.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	1732	1805
Avg. Per Game	108.3	112.8
Total Rushes	474	459
NET YARDS PASSING	3869	3492
Avg. Per Game	241.8	218.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	28/240	55/424
Gross Yards	4109	3916
Attempts/Completions	542/276	532/302
Pct. of Completions	50.9	56.8
Had Intercepted	22	19
PUNTS/AVERAGE	75/43.6	95/41.3
NET PUNTING AVG.	36.4	33.8
PENALTIES/YARDS	94/860	115/1026
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	29/10	21/9
TOUCHDOWNS	46	35
Rushing	23	14
Passing	22	21
Returns	1	0

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
REDSKINS	79	101	92	90	6	368
Opp. Total	82	77	68	69	0	296

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Max Zendejas	0-0	5-5	2-3	2-4	0-2	9-14

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
George Rogers	303	1203	4.0	42	18
Kelvin Bryant	69	258	3.7	22t	4
Keith Griffin	62	197	3.2	12	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Gary Clark	74	1265	17.1	55	7
Art Monk	73	1068	14.6	69	4
Kelvin Bryant	43	449	10.4	40	3
Clint Didier	34	691	20.3	71t	4
Don Warren	20	164	8.2	20	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Darrell Green	5	9	1.8	7	0
Curtis Jordan	3	46	15.3	20	0
Rich Milot	2	33	16.5	31	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Steve Cox	75	3271	43.6	16	21	58	0

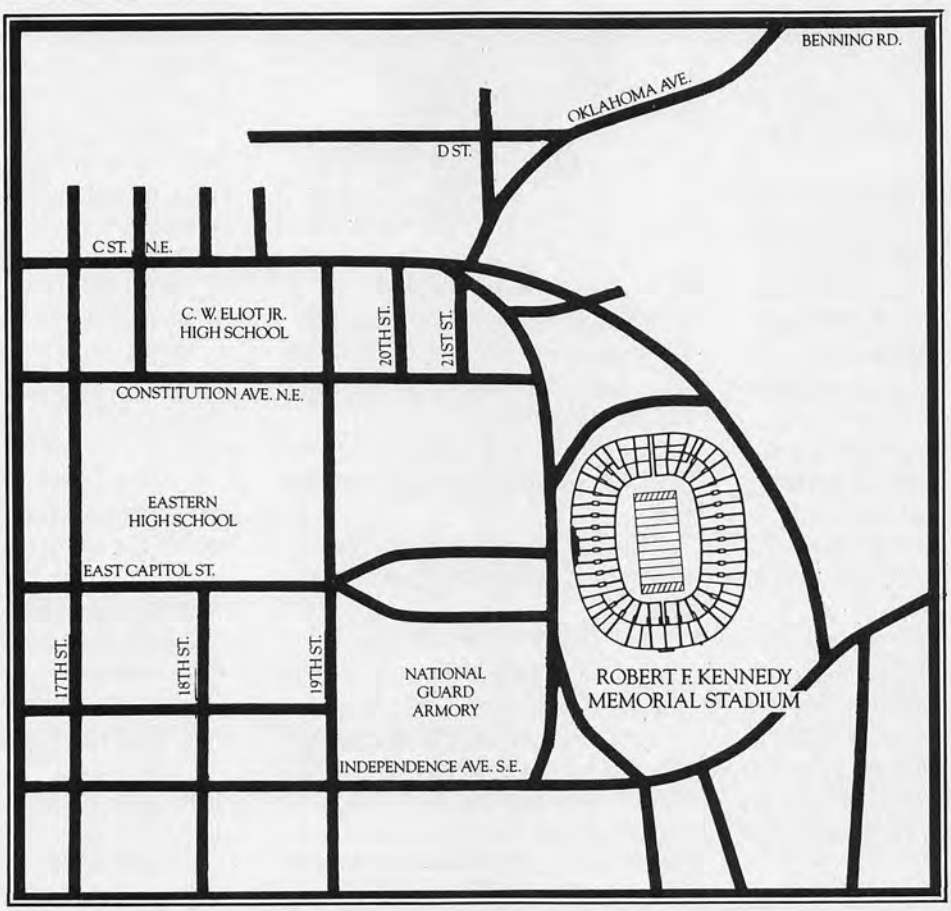
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ken Jenkins	28	11	270	9.6	39	0
Darrell Green	12	2	120	10.0	23	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ken Jenkins	27	554	20.5	37	0
Clarence Verdin	12	240	20.0	29	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Jay Schroeder	541	276	4109	51.0	7.60	22	4.1	22	4.1	71t	28/240	72.9
Doug Williams	1	0	0	0.0	0.00	0	0.0	0	0.0	0	0/0	39.6

REDSKINS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
2A	Brian **DAVIS** *CB*	6-2, 190	**Nebraska**	'86 second team All-Big 8...30 tackles (22 solos)...6 pass deflections, 1 fmb. rec.
2B	Wally **KLEINE** *DT*	6-9, 274	**Notre Dame**	'86 All-American Hon.Men...74 tackles (45 solos), 5 sacks & 13 tackles for 67 yds. in losses, 3 pass deflections.
5	Timmy **SMITH** *HB*	5-11, 216	**Texas Tech**	Closed out career as school's 11th all-time rusher with 1306 yds...'86 missed much of season recovering from off-season knee surgery.
6A	Steve **GAGE** *QB-RB-SS*	6-3, 210	**Tulsa**	Played in Senior Bowl as a safety, for the first time in career...Defensive Player of the Game...'86 comp. 57 of 137 passes for 1090 yds & 8 TD's.
6B	Ed **SIMMONS** *OT*	6-5, 275	**E. Washington**	'86 team's leading blocker with a 93% blocking grade.
7	Johnny **THOMAS** *DB*	5-9, 188	**Baylor**	'86...24 tackles (21 solos), 3 pass deflections.
8	Clarence **VAUGHN** *LB*	6-1, 206	**No. Illinois**	'86 second leading tackler on team with 96 tackles (36 solos), 1 int, 1 fmb. rec, 1 fmb. cau.
9	Alfred **JENKINS** *QB*	6-4, 218	**Arizona**	'86 passed for 1,573 yds., 118 comp. of 232 attps. for 10 TD's ...rushed 59 times for 167 yds., 2 TD's.
10	Ted **WILSON** *WR*	5-9, 170	**Central Florida**	'86 Harlon Hill nominee...caught 50 passes for 767 yds. & 3 TD's.
11	Laron **BROWN** *WR*	6-1, 185	**Texas**	'86 limited playing, 1 pass for 3 yds...track star, runs 400 m. in 45.2 seconds.
12	Ray **HITCHCOCK** *C*	6-2, 263	**Minnesota**	'86 second team All-Big 10...received a 90% blocking grade for the year...voted the team's Offensive Player of the year.



DALLAS COWBOYS

COWBOYS TRY TO REGAIN CONFIDENCE

BY DENNE FREEMAN

They said Tom Landry was pretty determined the day he had to crash-land his B-17 bomber during World War II.

Landry was proud nobody got a scratch in the desperate flight back to the home base in England.

The Dallas Cowboys' coach isn't that life-or-death serious about the 1987 NFL season but his degree of determination isn't far behind that close call in 1944.

He plans to yank his club out of its death spiral and Landry will coach the defense himself if that's what it takes.

"We need to develop a mean temperament," Landry said. "And that starts with the defense. We need to get more aggressive."

The Cowboys faded like cheap blue-jeans last year in the first losing season since 1965. After a 6-2 start, they lost seven of their last eight games. It was their first losing season (7-9) in 22 years.

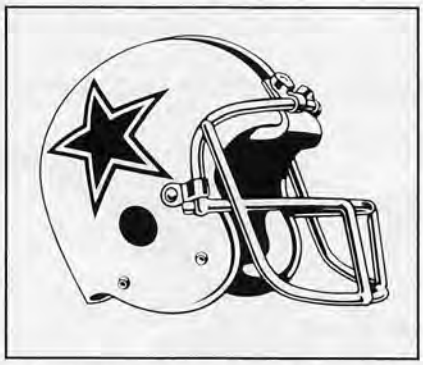
"We got off to an exceptional start with Herschel Walker coming in and doing such a remarkable job," Landry said. "He gave us something extra early in the season and we responded very well."

Instead of soaring into the playoffs for the 11th time in 12 years, the Cowboys bellylanded like Landry's bomber did 42 years ago.

Running back Tony Dorsett missed three games with damaged knees. Quarterback Danny White broke his wrist on his passing hand against the New York Giants. Walker sprained an ankle in the same game and limped through five games in November when the Cowboys lost four of them.

"We weren't strong enough defensively to offset the loss of offensive firepower in the second half of the season when we had a tough schedule," Landry said. "That led to a poor finish.

"That was a terrible stretch we had in the second half of the season. We've never had a stretch like that before in 27 years. I'm talking about being mentally on the downside. Even in the early years we might not win for three or four games



but we were always on a positive note. We've been knocked down before and come back, but we've never been on the skids like last year."

Landry said the Cowboys go into the 1987 season like a golfer with a bad duck hook.

"The toughest thing we are going to have to do is regain confidence," Landry said.

Landry's defense is a big question mark. It unraveled like a 50-cent baseball last year.

Landry, who invented the 4-3 defense when he was an assistant with the New York Giants in the 1950's, is going to be spending most of his time on the defensive side of the ball in the Cowboys' Thousand Oaks, California training camp.

"With the players we have on offense and (offensive coordinator) Paul Hackett moving into the second year handling the pass offense, we should be in good shape there," Landry said. "If it works out that way, then I'll spend a lot more time on defense than I have before. I think that's the place we have to be better and if we can be better there we've got a good chance to improve."

The defensive line is one of Landry's biggest problems. Averaging 34 years of age, it's eroding like a rural dirt road.

"We've aged in the defensive line," Landry said. "We didn't have the pass rush last year, the power, that we had in the 1970s and 1980s. This is where we must improve. That's why Kevin Brooks has to be a starter."

Brooks, a former first round pick in his third year, has been hampered by injuries but has shown flashes of brilliance at defensive end.

"He's a young guy with great physical assets," Landry said. "He can make a big impact if he can stay healthy and work."

Defensive end Ed Jones, and tackles John Dutton and Randy White wore down toward the end of the season as they approached their mid-30s.

White played the entire season without complaining about a damaged shoulder.

"No one knew about the shoulder," Landry said. "After the season, they operated on him and found out the thing was all torn apart. They got a good repair on it. Jones has got to get a little fire under him.

" Jim Jeffcoat had a sprained ankle most of the year and it hurt him," Landry said.

"He' is a hard worker and can be a solid player."

Landry said of Dutton: "At 35 he's at an age where it's hard to be a regular over a 16-game season. We must be ready to move in with younger players."

Landry looks for Don Smerek to see more playing time along with Mark Walen, a third round draft choice last year who will be coming off of injured reserve.

The Cowboys have veteran linebackers in Eugene Lockhart, Mike Hegman, Jeff Rohrer, Steve DeOssie, Jesse Penn, and Garth Jax but Landry is looking for more motivation.

"We need to develop playmakers, like the New York Giants and Chicago Bears have, who beat the block, shoot into the backfield and make the big plays," Landry said.

Landry also wants harder hitting from the secondary.

"We've got a lot of experience in the secondary but what we are going to stress this year is aggressive tackling," Landry said. "We don't care about the finesse guys. We want only the guys who are aggressive.

"Everson Walls can be as good as he wants to be," Landry said.

Better years are also expected of Ron Fellows, Micheal Downs, Bill Bates and Victor Scott.

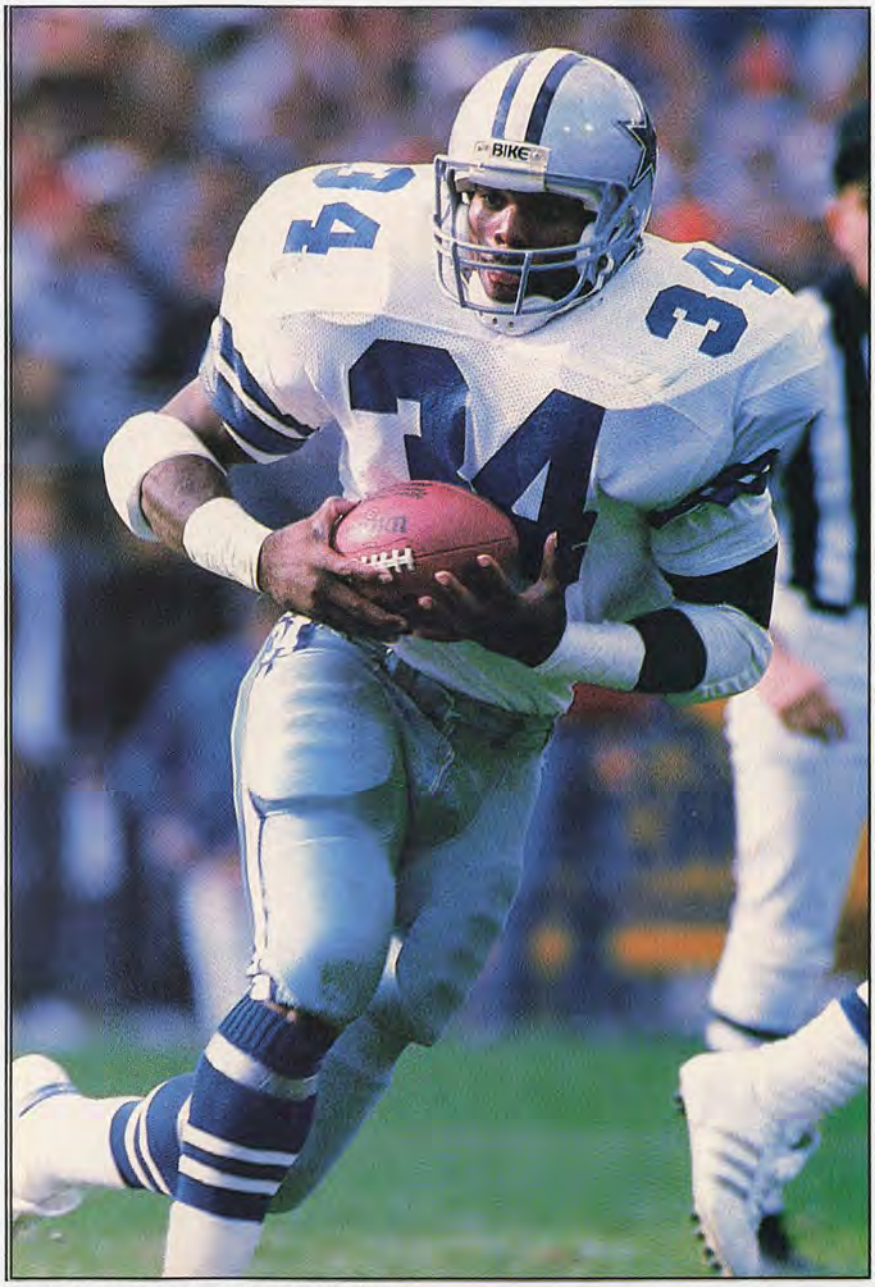
Mike Saxon is a solid punter, who should improve after a year of experience.

Offensively, the Cowboys could be dynamite if White's wrist heals properly.

White's wrist has healed slowly and several doctors encouraged an operation. White decided against it and the Cowboys will hold their breath everytime he throws a ball in training camp.

"We'll be in good shape if Danny comes back from the broken wrist because this system is a natural for him, just like San Francisco's is for Joe Montana," Landry said. "That's why we were so successful early last year."

Steve Pelluer had a tough time subbing for White, Dallas' offensive line had a horrible year and Pelluer spent numerous passing downs scrambling for his young life.



Herschel Walker is a threat every time he touches the ball

"Pelluer has a great future for us," Landry said. "We have a lot to work with in Pelluer. He is probably the most gifted quarterback we've had as far as mobility is concerned. The guy is uncanny in his ability to escape the pass rush like Fran Tarkenton used to do. Even Roger Staubach could never get out as quick and run as well as Pelluer.

"Steve is very poised, but the big hurdle for him now is mental. Can he overcome last year's losing streak?"

Reggie Collier and Paul McDonald will be competing for the third quarterback job.

Dallas will use Dorsett and Walker in the same backfield in 1987.

"We've got to keep both of them on the field as much as possible," Landry said. "When you have those two on the field, anything can happen. We'll use Herschel in a much broader way than we would normally use a fullback. He's got so much ability in so many areas, we'd be foolish not to take advantage of it."

Cowboys' Randy White mows down offensive lines

At wide receiver, the Cowboys return game-breaking rookie Mike Sherrard, a 1986 first round draft pick, Tony Hill, Mike Renfro, Gordon Banks, and Karl Powe.

The tight ends are Doug Cosbie and Thornton Chandler.

''Sherrard should be a Pro Bowl player,'' Landry said. ''He's got that kind of ability. Our passing attack will be built around him.''

But the offensive line is a giant question mark, a riddle that will have to be solved by Jim Erkenbeck, who was with the New Orleans Saints. Erkenbeck replaces Jim Myers, who retired.

''Jim will be taking a close look at each player,'' Landry said. ''We'll start with the same group of starters who finished the season and go from there.''

The returning veterans include Tom Rafferty at center, guards Crawford Ker, Glen Titensor, Brian Baldinger, and Nate Newton and tackles Mark Tuinei, Phil Pozderac, Kurt Petersen, and Howard Richards.

''We need to strengthen the tackle position,'' said Landry. ''Hopefully, Erkenbeck can solve some of our problems. We had a lot of injuries and got too many holding penalties. I think we can improve.''

The place-kicking job will be wide open with the forced departure of Rafael Septien, who pleaded guilty to indecency with a 10-year old girl and was put on probation.

They aren't talking championships at Valley Ranch this season.

''Our goal this year is to get back into the race,'' Landry said. ''We can't even think about the playoffs, or the Eastern Division championship. The way we played the last eight games we're no different than any other losing team.

''I don't know of any team that has come off a long winning streak and then not stayed down for awhile. That's the challenge we have.''

Landry added ''If we're better than a .500 team this year, then we've been successful. And once you get over the .500 mark, anything can happen.''

The old bomber pilot will see to it.□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Saxon**, Mike	P	6-3	188	3	San Diego State
10	**Collier**, Reggie	QB	6-3	207	2	Southern Mississippi
11	**White**, Danny	QB	6-3	197	12	Arizona State
14	**McDonald**, Paul	QB	6-2	185	8	Southern California
16	**Pelluer**, Steve	QB	6-4	208	4	Washington
22	**Scott**, Victor	DB	6-0	203	4	Colorado
23	**Holloway**, Johnny	CB	5-11	182	2	Kansas
24	**Walls**, Everson	CB	6-1	193	7	Grambling
26	**Downs**, Mike	S	6-3	204	7	Rice
27	**Fellows**, Ron	CB	6-0	173	7	Missouri
28	**Granger**, Norm	RB	5-10	225	2	Iowa
29	**Lavette**, Robert	RB	5-11	190	3	Georgia Tech
30	**Newsome**, Timmy	FB	6-1	237	8	Winston-Salem
33	**Dorsett**, Tony	RB	5-11	189	11	Pittsburgh
34	**Walker**, Herschel	RB	6-1	223	2	Georgia
36	**Albritton**, Vince	SS	6-2	210	4	Washington
40	**Bates**, Bill	SS	6-1	204	5	Tennessee
42	**Clack**, Darryl	FB	5-10	218	2	Arizona State
45	**Hendrix**, Manny	DB	5-10	178	2	Utah
46	**Fowler**, Todd	FB	6-3	221	3	Stephen F. Austin
50	**Rohrer**, Jeff	LB	6-2	227	6	Yale
53	**Jax**, Garth	LB	6-2	225	2	Florida State
54	**White**, Randy	DT	6-4	265	13	Maryland
55	**DeOssie**, Steve	LB	6-2	245	4	Boston College
56	**Lockhart**, Eugene	LB	6-2	235	4	Houston
58	**Hegman**, Mike	LB	6-1	227	12	Tennessee State
59	**Penn**, Jesse	LB	6-3	218	3	Virginia
60	**Smerek**, Don	DT	6-7	262	7	Nevada-Reno
62	**Baldinger**, Brian	G	6-4	261	5	Duke
63	**Titensor**, Glen	G	6-4	270	7	Brigham Young
64	**Rafferty**, Tom	C	6-3	262	12	Penn State
65	**Petersen**, Kurt	G	6-4	272	7	Missouri
67	**Newton**, Nathaniel	G	6-3	317	4	Florida A&M
68	**Ker**, Crawford	G	6-3	285	3	Florida
70	**Richards**, Howard	T	6-6	269	7	Missouri
71	**Tuinei**, Mark	C	6-5	283	5	Hawaii
72	**Jones**, Ed	DE	6-9	273	13	Tennessee State
75	**Pozderac**, Phil	T	6-9	283	6	Notre Dame
77	**Jeffcoat**, Jim	DE	6-5	260	5	Arizona State
78	**Dutton**, John	DT	6-7	261	14	Nebraska
80	**Hill**, Tony	WR	6-2	205	11	Stanford
81	**Powe**, Karl	WR	6-2	178	2	Alabama State
82	**Renfro**, Mike	WR	6-0	187	10	Texas Christian
84	**Cosbie**, Doug	TE	6-6	238	9	Santa Clara
85	**Chandler**, Thornton	TE	6-5	245	2	Alabama
86	**Sherrard**, Mike	WR	6-2	187	2	UCLA
87	**Banks**, Gordon	WR	5-10	173	5	Stanford
89	**Salonen**, Brian	LB	6-3	223	3	Montana

COWBOYS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	COWBOYS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	325	286
Rushing	98	118
Passing	199	148
Penalty	28	20
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	80/213 37.6%	89/226 39.4%
4th Down: Made/Att.	6/14	4/7
TOTAL NET YARDS	5474	4985
Avg. Per Game	342.2	311.6
Total Plays	1054	1017
Avg. Per Play	5.2	4.9
NET YARDS RUSHING	1969	2200
Avg. Per Game	123.1	137.5
Total Rushes	447	500
NET YARDS PASSING	3505	2785
Avg. Per Game	219.1	174.1
Tackled/Yards Lost	60/498	53/364
Gross Yards	4003	3149
Attempts/Completions	547/319	464/226
Pct. of Completions	58.3	48.7
Had Intercepted	24	17
PUNTS/AVERAGE	87/40.2	87/41.6
NET PUNTING AVG.	34.5	36.6
PENALTIES/YARDS	111/931	90/817
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	44/17	29/18
TOUCHDOWNS	43	41
Rushing	21	17
Passing	21	21
Returns	1	3

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
COWBOYS TOTAL	61	105	62	118	0	346
Opp. Total	44	136	74	83	0	337

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Septien	0-0	4-5	6-7	4-7	1-2	15-21

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Dorsett	184	748	4.1	33	5
Walker	151	737	4.9	84t	12
Pelluer	41	255	6.2	21	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Walker	76	837	11.0	84t	2
Hill	49	770	15.7	63	3
Newsome	48	421	8.8	30	3
Sherrard	41	744	18.2	68t	5
Cosbie	28	312	11.1	22t	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Downs	6	54	9.0	31	0
Fellows	5	46	9.2	34t	1
Walls	3	46	15.3	24	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Saxon	86	3498	40.7	10	28	58	1

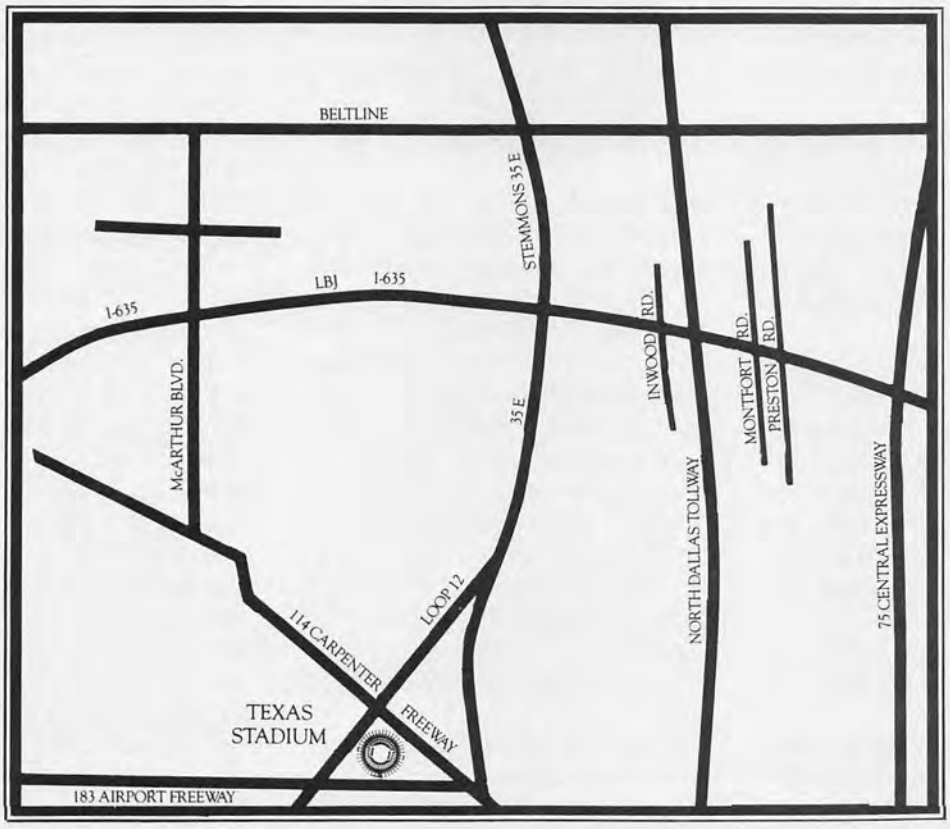
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Banks	27	14	160	5.9	20	0
Lavette	18	3	92	5.1	28	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lavette	36	699	19.4	37	0
Clack	19	421	22.2	51	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Pelluer	378	215	2727	56.9	7.21	8	2.1	17	4.5	84t	47/362	67.9
White	153	95	1157	62.1	7.56	12	7.8	5	3.3	63	10/98	97.9

COWBOYS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Danny **NOONAN** *NG*	6-4, 280	**Nebraska**	'86 consensus first team All-Big 8 & All-American...53 tackles (31 solos)...7 sacks & 12 tackles for 62 yds. in losses.
2	Ron **FRANCIS** *CB*	5-9, 177	**Baylor**	'86 All-SWC...37 tackles (27 solos), 1 fmb. cau., 2 fmb. rec., 11 pass deflections & int'ed 8.
3	Jeff **ZIMMERMAN** *OG-T*	6-4, 322	**Florida**	'86 first team All-SEC selection, also earning All-American honors...finalist for both the Outland & Lombardi Trophies...received a 90% blocking grade on the year.
4	Kevin **MARTIN** *WR-KR*	5-9, 161	**Boston College**	'86 bothered by an assortment of minor injuries...caught 41 passes for 545 yds, (13.3 avg.) & 8 TDs.
5	Everett **GAY** *WR*	6-2, 204	**Texas**	'86 26 recpts. for 341 yds. & a TD...in the Blue-Gray Classic caught 4 passes for 73 yds.
6	Joe **ONOSAI** *OL*	6-3, 272	**Hawaii**	'86 second team All-WAC, played center, guard & tackle.
7	Kevin **SWEENEY** *QB*	6-0, 195	**Fresno St.**	Most prolific passer in NCAA...throwing for 10, 623 yds...'86 first team All-PCAA for third year in a row completing 160 of 284 passes for 2363 yds. & 15 TD's.
8	Kevin **GOGAN** *OT*	6-6, 285	**Washington**	Benched pressed over 490 lbs...'86 second team All-PAC 10...received a 91% blocking grade for the year...voted the team's Offensive Player of the year.
9	Alvin **BLOUNT** *HB*	5-10, 200	**Maryland**	'86 led team & was eighth in ACC in rushing gaining 505 yds. on 119 carries (4.2 avg.) & 3 TD's, 24 recpts. for 140 yds.
10	Dale **JONES** *OLB*	6-2, 227	**Tennessee**	'86 first team All-SEC...87 tackles (53 solos)...4.5 sacks with 7 tackles for 22 yds. in losses...finalist for Butkus Award.
11	Jeff **WARD** *PK*	5-9, 170	**Texas**	57 yd. fg; longest...'86 second team All-SWC...12 of 19 fg's & 23 of 23 extra points.
12	Scott **ARMSTRONG** *LB*	6-1, 230	**Florida**	School's Weightlifter of the Year...career (80 solo tackles) 57 assists, 6 for losses of 11 yds., 1 int., 1 fmb. rec.



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

BUDDY ON THE HOT SEAT

BY ANGELO CATALDI

The tempestuous Buddy Ryan era in Philadelphia will begin its second—and very possibly, its last—season this year amid concerns that his grand design for building a winner is nothing more than a muddled, meaningless scrawl.

Despite Ryan's boast that the Eagles would make the playoffs last season and would sweep all eight games against their division rivals, the team endured its fifth consecutive losing year with a grim 5-10-1 record and no great hope for a sudden change in fortunes in 1987. The truth is, this appears to be a club with an eroding base of talent, a pervasive feeling of dissension and dubious leadership personified by Ryan himself.

And yet, true to his feisty, indomitable image, Ryan has remained steadfast in his conviction that the same club that was such a thorough disappointment last year will emerge as one of the biggest surprises in 1987. He seems largely alone in that belief, however.

"I think the players believe in what they're doing," the coach said. "They know they're going to get there and that it's just a matter of maturing together. (In 1986) we put together the nucleus to build on. We went through growing pains. When you start seven or eight rookies, that's going to happen. You usually find a way to lose rather than win. But as they mature, we're going to have a great football team in Philadelphia that all our fans will be proud of."

For Ryan's sake, this is one prediction that had better come true, or he could conceivably face a permanent move to his Kentucky farm by next winter, despite the fact that his contract doesn't expire until the end of the 1990 season. The fans in Philadelphia are already losing patience with Ryan's flawed forecasts—and, for that matter, with Ryan himself.

The most important point of contention among many involving Ryan is the way he dismantled a 1985 team that finished with a 7-9 mark and was a playoff

contender until the final weeks of the season. He received almost nothing in return for running back Earnest Jackson, safety Ray Ellis, linebackers Anthony Griggs, Joel Williams and Reggie Wilkes, guard Steve Kenney and center Mark Dennard, and all of them were then able to win other jobs—and sometimes starring roles—with other NFL clubs.

In addition, Ryan elected to trade two high draft picks (a No. 3 in 1986 and a No. 2 this year) to San Francisco in return for lightly regarded veteran quarterback Matt Cavanaugh, who quickly plunged to third-string status on the Eagles' depth chart.

But the fatal blow in Ryan's reign of error could well be his decision last March not to guarantee the $600,000 contract of quarterback Ron Jaworski, who thus became a free agent and immediately vowed never to play in Philadelphia again. After a decade of service to the Eagles, Jaworski said he was dumbfounded by the cold, thankless treatment that he received from Ryan.

Suddenly, the team now finds itself with a largely unproven starting quarterback in Randall Cunningham, the aforementioned Cavanaugh and a backup to be gleaned from a throng of nondescript rookies. The one undeniable strength of this perennial loser is a strength no more.

And yet, if this club has any hope of recovering from a season of discontent and five years of futility, it is found in the evasive legs and powerful arm of Cunningham, who proved last year that he has the physical ability to lead an NFL offense. The problem is, right now he doesn't have the experience.

He also doesn't have the blocking. In fact, the offensive line of the Eagles was historically inept last season when it allowed an NFL record 104 sacks—34 more than the previous all-time mark of 70 compiled by the 1968 Atlanta Falcons. In roughly half a season, Cunningham himself was sacked a staggering total of 72 times.

Against all advice, Ryan decided shortly after his arrival in Philadelphia to remake the offensive line by discarding Kenney and Dennard and replacing them with a collection of unproven rookies. As a result, the starting offensive line in 1987 figures to be left tackle Ken Reeves, left guard Bob Landsee, center Gerry Feehery (or Matt Darwin if Feehery

doesn't recover from major knee surgery), right guard Ron Baker and right tackle Joe Conwell. Murderer's Row, they aren't.

"You can't blame it all on the offensive line," insisted Ryan, alluding to the sack record. "They block only five of the guys. We had backs who missed blitz pickups or got beat individually. We had quarterbacks who didn't get rid of the ball the way they're supposed to. It was a combination of the whole offense."

In the course of a devastating season, a heavy proportion of the blame for the failures of the offense fell on veteran tight end John Spagnola, who feuded with Ryan repeatedly. At year's end, Spagnola's pass-catching production had fallen to a three-year low of 39 catches, and his blocking was, by his own analysis, disappointing. Ryan openly marketed Spagnola in the offseason because the coach believes that backup Dave Little is a tougher blocker and has better speed than Spagnola.

And if both Spagnola and Little aren't meeting Ryan's standards, the coach said he's prepared to use converted defensive end Byron Darby at tight end. Darby played the last few games of the 1986 season there, with no particular distinction, and he has made it known that he is far from enthralled with the switch.

While the offensive line remains a chaos of problems, the one true attribute of the Eagles is their receiving corp, and most notably the magical efforts of Mike Quick. Although his statistical output (60 catches, 939 yards) was down somewhat in 1986, he remained one of the league's elite receivers, both because of his brilliant agility and extraordinary hands. On the right team, he could take his rightful place among the greatest wide receivers in NFL history. Alas, this is obviously not the right team.

The Eagles are represented on the other side of the line by Kenny Jackson, whose skills won him a first-round draft selection in 1984 but whose unwillingness to sacrifice his body has held him back from star status. Jackson has been tentative for years on passes over the middle, and many teams have cheated to the outside and down the field in their coverage. If Jackson isn't traded—he, too, has been offered around the league—he could lose his job to one of three gifted backups: Phil Smith, Ron Johnson or Gregg Garrity.

Eagles' Mike Quick runs routes to perfection

The final element of an underachieving Eagles' offense is a corps of questionable running backs led by first-round draft choice Keith Byars, who languished through a puzzling, unsatisfying rookie season in 1986. Despite the fact that he appeared to be fully recovered from the chronic foot problems that plagued his senior season at Ohio State, Byars only rarely ran with the same power and conviction that had punctuated his outstanding college career.

Ryan believes that Byars will emerge

as a "franchise player"—as the coach prefers to call him—now that he has learned the pitfalls of life in the NFL, but Byars has made it clear that he is no great admirer of Ryan, and with good reason. Not only was the rookie runner shuttled in and out of the lineup all season, but he also never clearly understood his role on the team. Under Ryan, who is no master at the art of communication, he may never understand it.

Backing up Byars at halfback will be scatback Junior Tautalatasi (if he fully recovers from leg surgery) and Charles Crawford, a power runner who is more suited to fullback. Both have some talent, but neither has established himself with any degree of consistency in the NFL.

Perhaps the best move of Ryan's gruesome first season with the Eagles was his decision to draft fullback Anthony Toney in the second round last year. A strong straight-ahead runner, Toney has game-breaking speed and is also developing into a punishing blocker. Behind him will be former No. 1 draft pick Michael Haddix, who is slowly becoming reconciled to his fate as a career backup.

On the other side of the ball, the disappointment of 1986 was even more pronounced, because so much more was expected of the Eagles under Ryan's direction. The heralded 46 defense that Ryan employed so effectively with the 1985 champion Chicago Bears was generally a disaster in Philadelphia last year. In fact, the team actually was less successful in most statistical categories than it had been before Ryan's trumpeted arrival.

One of the main reasons for that was the absence of free safety Wes Hopkins, who suffered a career-threatening knee injury four games into the season. The prognosis is for him to return to workouts at the end of training camp, if indeed he can ever return at all. Journeyman Terry Hoage will replace him if Hopkins can't make it back.

The remainder of the defensive secondary should be respectable, and possibly even more than that. Strong safety Andre Waters responded to Ryan's incessant coaxing last year with a breakthrough season, and he appears ready to compete for a Pro Bowl spot in 1987. Roynell Young is solid at one of the corners, and Evan Cooper and Elbert Foules will probably share the other cornerback spot. They are all relatively young, and hold the promise of better work in 1987.

The same cannot necessarily be said for the rest of the defense, however. Ryan is generally displeased with his corps of linebackers, as evidenced by his ardent pre-draft pursuit of Oklahoma terror Brian Bosworth. In the end, Bosworth elected to forego the regular draft, leaving Ryan with no immediate solution to his dilemma.

Philadelphia's Reggie White is overpowering

Although Ryan has been careful not to criticize middle linebacker Mike Reichenbach—a surprising strategy for the normally caustic coach—it is clear that Reichenbach's future could be as a backup. An overachiever who ran the complicated new defense last year, Reichenbach simply isn't fast enough or dominating enough to suit Ryan.

The two other starting linebackers figure to be Alonzo Johnson and Garry Cobb, with Seth Joyner challenging both of them. Johnson was erratic in his rookie season, but much is expected of him. Cobb is a rarity on the club—a veteran who survived the purge. And Joyner is, in the eyes of many, the teacher's pet. Ryan has had nothing but glowing words for Joyner, even though most football scouts are not nearly as impressed.

On the front line, the Eagles hope to build around the focal point of the defense, end Reggie White. In his first full season in the NFL, White survived a near-disastrous position switch by Ryan to defensive tackle and still managed to make the Pro Bowl with 18 sacks. Now that Ryan appears to have learned his lesson, White should have a superb season in 1987—perhaps even a record-setting one for sacks.

Ten-year veteran Ken Clarke remains the incumbent at right defensive tackle, although he, too, feuded with Ryan last season and has been offered in a number of trade packages. Reggie Singletary, Clyde Simmons and a host of unknowns will compete for the other starting tackle spot, and Greg Brown will try to rebound from a terrible season at right defensive end.

The Eagles' special teams were largely a misnomer last season as placekicker Paul McFadden slumped so badly that he sought psychiatric help in the offseason and punter John Teltschik continued to struggle for consistency in his bewilderingly erratic work. Both should survive challenges for their jobs in training camp, but neither is entirely dependable at this point.

With so many question marks at so many positions, the Eagles would be regarded as a troubled team even under normal circumstances, and these clearly are not normal circumstances. The friction that developed between Ryan and the players last season continues to electrify the atmosphere in the clubhouse, and most of the veteran players, the team leaders, are not there to defuse the situation.

But perhaps the most worrisome element of all is a schedule that ranks as the most difficult in the league and includes games against Chicago, Miami, San Francisco, New England and the New York Jets, plus the usual two-game divisional matchups with Washington, the New York Giants and Dallas.

In short, the Eagles figure to go nowhere in 1987. And then Buddy Ryan figures to go home.□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
6	**Cavanaugh**, Matt	QB	6-2	212	10	Pittsburgh
7	**Jaworski**, Ron	QB	6-2	195	14	Youngstown State
8	**McFadden**, Paul	K	5-11	155	4	Youngstown State
10	**Teltschik**, John	P	6-2	215	1	Texas
11	**Mackey**, Kyle	QB	6-3	219	2	East Texas St.
12	**Cunningham**, Randall	QB	6-4	198	3	Nevada-Las Vegas
16	**Booker**, Martin	WR	6-1	183	R	Villanova
18	**Redick**, Cornelius	WR	5-11	185	R	Cal State-Full.
20	**Waters**, Andre	SS	5-11	182	4	Cheyney, PA
21	**Cooper**, Evan	CB	5-11	180	4	Michigan
22	**Wilson**, Brenard	FS-SS	6-0	180	9	Vanderbilt
23	**Brown**, Cedrick	CB	5-10	178	R	Washington St.
25	**Toney**, Anthony	FB	6-0	227	1	Texas A&M
26	**Haddix**, Michael	FB	6-2	225	5	Mississippi State
27	**Watkins**, Dennis	CB	6-0	175	R	Nebraska
29	**Foules**, Elbert	CB	5-11	184	5	Alcorn State
33	**Frizzell**, William	S	6-3	198	3	N. Carolina Central
34	**Hoage**, Terry	SS	6-3	200	3	Georgia
37	**Tautalatasi**, Junior	RB	5-11	205	1	Washington State
42	**Byars**, Keith	RB	6-1	230	1	Ohio State
43	**Young**, Roynell	CB	6-1	184	8	Alcorn State
45	**Crawford**, Charles	RB	6-2	235	1	Oklahoma State
48	**Hopkins**, Wes	FS	6-1	205	5	Southern Methodist
50	**Cobb**, Garry	OLB	6-2	227	9	Southern California
52	**Kraynak**, Rich	MLB	6-1	230	5	Pittsburgh
53	**Jiles**, Dwayne	OLB	6-5	240	3	Texas Tech
54	**Johnson**, Alonzo	OLB	6-2	220	1	Florida
55	**Reichenbach**, Mike	MLB	6-2	235	4	E. Stroudsburg, PA
58	**Lee**, Byron	LB	6-2	230	1	Ohio State
59	**Joyner**, Seth	LB	6-2	241	1	Texas-El Paso
62	**Haden**, Nick	G-C	6-2	270	1	Penn State
63	**Baker**, Ron	G	6-4	270	10	Oklahoma State
65	**Landsee**, Bob	OL	6-4	273	1	Wisconsin
66	**Reeves**, Ken	T-G	6-5	272	3	Texas A&M
67	**Feehery**, Gerry	C	6-2	275	6	Syracuse
69	**Tupper**, Jeff	DE	6-5	269	1	Oklahoma
71	**Clarke**, Ken	DT	6-2	275	10	Syracuse
74	**Mitchell**, Leonard	T	6-7	295	8	Houston
76	**Schreiber**, Adam	G-C	6-4	270	4	Texas
77	**Black**, Mike	T-G	6-4	290	1	Sacramento State
78	**Darwin**, Matt	C	6-4	260	1	Texas A&M
79	**Conwell**, Joe	T	6-5	275	2	North Carolina
81	**Jackson**, Kenny	WR	6-0	180	4	Penn State
82	**Quick**, Mike	WR	6-2	190	6	North Carolina State
83	**Smith**, Phil	WR	6-3	188	4	San Diego State
84	**Darby**, Byron	TE	6-4	262	5	Southern California
85	**Johnson**, Ron	WR	6-3	190	3	Cal State-Long Beach
86	**Garrity**, Gregg	WR-PR	5-10	169	5	Penn State
88	**Spagnola**, John	TE	6-4	240	8	Yale
89	**Little**, David	TE	6-2	240	4	Middle Tennessee
92	**White**, Reggie	DT	6-5	285	3	Tennessee
93	**Strauthers**, Thomas	DE	6-4	265	5	Jackson State
95	**Schulz**, Jody	OLB	6-4	235	4	East Carolina
96	**Simmons**, Clyde	DE	6-6	258	1	Western Carolina
97	**Singletary**, Reggie	DT	6-3	272	1	North Carolina State
98	**Brown**, Greg	DE	6-5	260	7	Kansas State

EAGLES STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	EAGLES	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	287	278
Rushing	113	97
Passing	150	156
Penalty	24	25
3rd Down: Made/Att.	105/273	79/230
4th Down: Made/Att.	5/12	9/16
TOTAL NET YARDS	4542	5224
Avg. Per Game	283.9	326.5
Total Plays	1117	1043
Avg. Per Play	4.1	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	2002	1989
Avg. Per Game	125.1	124.3
Total Rushes	499	458
NET YARDS PASSING	2540	3235
Avg. Per Game	158.8	202.2
Tackled/Yards Lost	104/708	53/406
Gross Yards	3248	3641
Attempts/Completions	514/268	532/260
Pct. of Completions	52.1	48.9
Had Intercepted	17	23
PUNTS/AVERAGE	111/41.0	97/38.7
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.5	32.3
PENALTIES/YARDS	102/901	115/884
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	34/10	30/13
TOUCHDOWNS	28	39
Rushing	8	14
Passing	19	21
Returns	1	4

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
EAGLES	66	51	48	85	6	256
Opp. Total	50	75	86	98	3	312

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
McFadden	0-0	6-6	10-12	3-10	1-3	20-31

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Byars	177	577	3.3	32	1
Cunningham	66	540	8.2	20	5
Toney	69	285	4.1	43	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Quick	60	939	15.7	75t	9
Tautalatasi	41	325	7.9	56	2
Spagnola	39	397	10.2	38	1
K. Jackson	30	506	16.9	49	6
Haddix	26	150	5.8	29	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
A. Waters	6	39	6.5	21	0
Young	6	9	1.5	9	0
Cooper	3	20	6.7	20	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Teltschik	108	4493	41.6	10	20	62	1

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Garrity	17	7	187	11.0	76t	1
Cooper	16	7	139	8.7	58	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Crawford	27	497	18.4	36	0
Tautalatasi	18	344	19.1	51	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Jaworski	245	128	1405	52.2	5.73	8	3.3	6	2.4	56	22/156	70.2
Cunningham	209	111	1391	53.1	6.66	8	3.8	7	3.3	75t	72/489	72.9

EAGLES DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Jerome **BROWN** *DT*	6-2, 291	**Miami**	'86 unanimous first team All-American...75 tackles (41 solos) with 5 sacks.
3	Ben **TAMBURELLO** *C*	6-3, 269	**Auburn**	'86 unanimous All-American first team selection...received a blocking grade of over 90% in every game.
4	Byron **EVANS** *OLB*	6-2, 218	**Arizona**	'86 first team All-Pac 10 Def Player of the Year...196 tackles (111 solos)...6 tackles for 23 yds. in losses & a sack...1 fmb. cau. & 2 fmb. rec., 1 int. & 5 pass deflections.
5	David **ALEXANDER** *OG*	6-3, 269	**Tulsa**	'86 All-American Hon. Men. by AP...(93% blocking grade on the year)...Offensive Linemen of the Year by ESPN.
6A	Ron **MOTEN** *OLB*	6-1, 227	**Florida**	'86 suspended from team final 4 games...41 tackles (31 solos)
6B	Chris **PIKE** *DE*	6-7, 278	**Tulsa**	'86 missed final 6 games with knee injury...21 tackles (13 solos), 4 sacks & 10 tackles for 56 yds. in losses.
7	Brian **WILLIAMS** *OT*	6-5, 271	**Central Michigan**	'86 first team All-Mid American selection...over 70% of the team's running plays went over his area.
9	Ken **LAMBIOTTE** *QB*	6-4, 190	**William & Mary**	'86 passing;comp. 233 of 385 attps., 2609 yds., 23 TD's, 17 int's.
10	Paul **CARBERRY** *DT*	6-3, 262	**Oregon St.**	'86...41 tackles (28 solos), 3 sacks, 6 pass deflections.
12	Bobby **MORSE** *RB*	5-9, 196	**Michigan St.**	'86 Hon.Men. All-Big 10...87 rushes, 398 yds., 5 TD's.

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

CARDS DO IT STALLINGS WAY

BY JUDSON HAND

A new sheriff rode into St. Louis last season, and the natives became restless. A lean, tough talking Texan, new head coach Gene Stallings, laid down a new set of laws for the Cardinals.

The players did things his way, or Stallings gave them a one-way ticket out of town. Stallings waived two reserve quarterbacks who wouldn't move to St. Louis for offseason workouts and sent scores of players to the bench. After personality conflicts, Stallings traded the team's all-time leading rusher, O.J. Anderson, and also sparred with owner Bill Bidwill.

Stallings' rookie head-coaching season was one of chaos. Because of all his changes, the Cardinals finished the season with 22 of 45 players either in their first or second NFL seasons.

The growing pains were considerable. The Cardinals finished with a 4-11-1 record, good for last place in the NFC East and their poorest mark in 27 years in St. Louis. They scored the fewest points (218) in the NFL, and set a team record for most penalties.

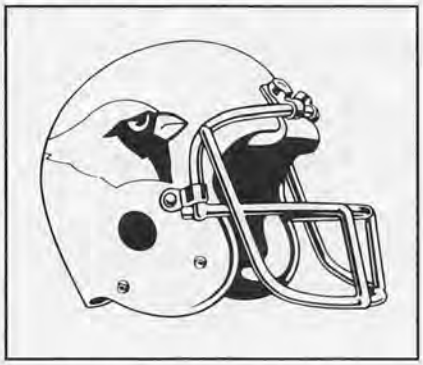
However . . .

Despite the gloomy record, the Cardinals clearly inherited some of Stallings' spunk. His inexperienced team was racked by devastating injuries but remained resilient much of the season.

The Cardinals lost five games by seven or fewer points in 1986. Of their seven contests with playoff-bound teams, the Cardinals won one but lost four of the other six by a touchdown or less. Their defense was rated fourth in the league.

The Cardinals were a disciplined, well-conditioned, hard-working team that usually fought down to the last drop. The spirit was willing, and Stallings thinks he has something to build on.

"We could have won five more ballgames," he said. "We were a few plays here and there, away from possibly having a respectable record. Despite a lot of bad injuries. I saw players working hard, I saw progress, I think we understand each other now. I think we can get a whole lot better this season."



The key to the team's offensive revival is quarterback Neil Lomax, who will attempt to pull himself out of a two-year slump. In 1984, Lomax emerged as an up-and-coming gunslinger who passed for 4,614 yards and earned a trip to the Pro Bowl. Now, at 28, Lomax appears to be burned out after being sacked 113 times over the last two seasons.

Lomax lost his starting job to Cliff Stoudt for two games in '86 and finished with only 2,583 yards passing.

But the Cardinals are quitely optimistic that Lomax can bounce back. After his benching, Lomax completed 63 percent of his passes for 1,031 yards and six TDs in the final five games. It was a flicker of his old form.

"Neil didn't have an easy year," Stallings said. "His receivers were hurt and we were breaking in a lot of new people on the line, Neil is still a good passer with a nice touch. But we need him to start making some plays. He needs to work on getting out of trouble. We surrendered too many sacks."

Stallings will give the 31-year-old Stoudt a chance to take Lomax's job. Stoudt joined the Cardinals after a two-year stint in the USFL, and his scrambling, gambling style rallied the team to one come-from-behind victory.

But the erratic Stoudt also threw seven interceptions in 2 1/2 games.

"Cliff is big and strong," said Stallings, " and he had some success in the USFL. Now that he has a year with us, and we'll go through an entire training camp. I think he can really challenge Neil."

The other big key is the comeback of wide receiver Roy Green. Once the league's premier deep threat, Green has missed nine games in the last two years because of injuries, and at age 30 seems to have lost a step. But Green finished the '86 season with a flurry of his old magic, catching TD passes in four of his last five starts.

With Green and Lomax combining for a late-season flashback to 1984 when they led a high-powered offense to a 9-7 record, the Cardinals had a 2-2-1 mark in their final five games of '86.

"It just showed how much we need Neil and Roy to come through for us," Stallings said. "If Roy is healthy, he remains a very dangerous weapon. And he definitely makes Neil a better quarter-

back.''

Because of injuries to Green and Pat Tilley, J.T. Smith became the central figure in the passing attack. The underrated Smith hauled in a club-record 80 receptions for 1,014 yards and six TDs last year. Smith isn't much of a deep threat, but catches everything over the middle.

With Tilley, 34, having retired because of a bad back, the third wideout spot is open. Three unproven youngsters are among the competitors. Troy Johnson and Don Holmes have plenty of speed but lack polish. Eric Swanson isn't very fast but he runs crisp routes and has good hands. Stallings also wants more production out of tight end Doug Marsh, who tapered off to 25 catches last season.

Tailback Stump Mitchell squeezed the most out of his 5-9, 180-pound, banged-up body in 1986. After winning the starting job from Anderson, Mitchell cranked out 800 yards at an average of 4.6 yards per carry. He did so despite playing most of the season with badly bruised ribs and an injured knee that required postseason surgery.

In his 22 starts over the last two seasons, Mitchell rushed for 1,806 yards. His career average of 5.2 yards per carry is the best in Cardinals history.

But can he remain healthy?

''It's something we're concerned about,'' said Stallings. ''Ideally, we'd like to give him the ball 25 times a game. He's that good.''

Mitchell was complemented by fullback Earl Ferrell, a solid blocker who finished second on the team in rushing (548 yards) and receiving (56 catches) last season. Both were career highs.

''The running backs were the highlight of our offense last year,'' Stallings said. ''They gave us everything.''

With Mitchell's durability a concern, so is the weak depth behind the starters. Vai Sikanema made the Pro Bowl as a kick return man in his rookie season, but isn't a rugged runner. And reserve fullback Ron Wolfley, who made made the Pro Bowl last season for his kamikaze play on the special teams, is used in short-yardage situations.

The offensive line, which didn't provide Lomax or Mitchell with much of a safety net in '86, underwent a major reshuffling. Left tackle Luis Sharpe was the only lineman to start all 16 games at the same position. The Cardinals used four left guards, three centers, three right guards and four right tackles last season. Sharpe pounced from a sub-par 1985 and is one of the league's top pass-blockers, but he and right guard Joe Bostic are the only reliable players up front.

Left guard Doug Dawson missed 15 games with a ruptured Achilles' tendon. Dawson is expected to make a full recovery but may be switched to center. Neither Gene Chilton nor Mike Ruether distinguished themselves at the position last year, but both have tremendous bulk and strength.

Derek Kennard, a former USFL player who was incosistent last season, could emerge at left guard, and right tackle looms as a three-way battle between Lance Smith, Tootie Robbins and Ray Brown. But Brown and Smith can also play guard.

Which players go in what slots? The options are numerous but the answers are not.

''I think we have a lot of young talent there,'' Stallings said, ''but we've moved a lot of people around. We need to settle people in one position, and allow our young people to grow and get better.''

The most pleasant development in Stallings' first season was the emergence of a sturdy defense.The Cardinals allowed 304 yards per game, the fourth lowest total in the league, and finished No.1 against the pass. But Stallings wants more bite. The Cardinals had only 10 interceptions and 22 total takeaways in 1986, making them one of the league's least-disruptive defenses.

''We finished next-to-last in takeaways, and that hurt our offense,'' Stallings said. ''Our offense was always having to march the ball 75 yards to get a score. We need to set up the offense for some quick touchdowns.''

Stallings hopes the switch to a 4-3 alignment will put some teeth in the defense. Using a 3-4, the Cardinals had a spotty pass rush in 1986, and their linebackers forced only six fumbles and had no interceptions.

''We need more impact from our front seven,'' Stallings said. But the numbers are thin. Although David Galloway provides the Cardinals with at least one dominating player at tackle, Bubba Baker is their only proven defensive end.

Baker had 10 sacks last year. But end Curtis Greer has had to retire because of a bad knee, and ends Bob Clasby and Stafford Mays lack pass rush moves. The Cardinals got only 18 sacks from their line last season and only 13 came from the ends.

For one solution, Stallings will move outside linebacker Freddie Joe Nunn up front. A standup defensive end in college, Nunn had seven sacks last year as a blitzer in his second NFL season.

''If we can bulk him up to about 250 pounds, I think Freddie Joe has the speed to provide some big plays at defensive end,'' Stallings said.

The Cardinals were also ranked 25th against the run last season and clearly need better play from their linebackers. Two-time Pro Bowl performer E.J. Junior was hobbled by an ankle injury in 1986 and struggled through his poorest NFL season. Niko Noga will play the middle in the 4-3, with Junior shifting outside. Charlie Baker and disappointing 1986 first-round pick Anthony Bell will compete for the other outside spot.

Opposing quarterbacks completed only 49 percent of their passes against the Cardinals last season. Stallings, the secondary coach at Dallas for 14 years before heading to St. Louis, brought some new techniques and the defensive backs responded with aggressive play.

Strong safety Leonard Smith, an intimidating tackler, just missed being voted to the Pro Bowl. Free safety Lonnie Young is just as aggressive , but needs to cut down on his mistakes. The two young starting corners, Carl Carter and Cedric Mack, have a lot of promise but rarely come up with the ball. Wayne Smith is the top reserve cornerback.

■ *continued on page 43*

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
10	**Lee**, John	K	5-11	177	1	UCLA
15	**Lomax**, Neil	QB	6-3	218	7	Portland State
16	**Austin**, Kent	QB	6-1	195	1	Mississippi
17	**Arapostathis**, Evan	K-P	5-9	160	1	Eastern Illinois
18	**Stoudt**, Cliff	QB	6-4	218	9	Youngstown State
23	**Thurman**, Dennis	FS	5-11	182	10	Southern California
24	**Wolfley**, Ron	FB	6-0	222	3	West Virginia
30	**Mitchell**, Stump	RB	5-9	190	7	Citadel
31	**Ferrell**, Earl	FB	6-0	224	6	East Tennessee State
32	**Anderson**, Otis	RB	6-2	220	9	Miami
36	**Sikahema**, Vai	RB	5-9	190	1	Brigham Young
39	**Sargent**, Broderick	FB	5-10	215	1	Baylor
41	**Carter**, Carl	CB	5-11	180	1	Texas Tech
42	**Johnson**, Bobby	SS	6-0	189	5	Texas
43	**Young**, Lonnie	FS	6-1	182	3	Michigan State
45	**Smith**, Wayne	CB	6-0	175	8	Purdue
47	**Mack**, Cedric	CB	6-0	190	5	Baylor
48	**Washington**, Lionel	CB	6-0	188	5	Tulane
52	**Baker**, Charles	OLB	6-2	234	8	New Mexico
53	**Nunn**, Freddie Joe	OLB	6-4	228	3	Mississippi
54	**Junior**, E. J.	ILB	6-3	235	7	Alabama
55	**Bell**, Anthony	OLB	6-3	231	1	Michigan State
56	**Bernardo**, Rick	LB	6-3	225	1	Notre Dame
57	**Noga**, Falaniko	ILB	6-1	238	4	Hawaii
58	**Chilton**, Gene	C	6-3	271	1	Texas
59	**Monaco**, Ron	OLB	6-1	225	1	South Carolina
60	**Baker**, Al	DE	6-6	270	10	Colorado State
61	**Smith**, Leonard	SS	5-11	202	5	McNeese State
62	**Brown**, Ray	T	6-5	257	1	Arkansas State
64	**Clark**, Randy	C	6-4	270	8	Northern Illinois
65	**Galloway**, David	NT	6-3	277	6	Florida
66	**Dawson**, Doug	G	6-2	270	4	Texas
67	**Sharpe**, Luis	TT	6-4	260	6	UCLA
70	**Kennard**, Derek	G	6-1	295	2	Nevada-Reno
71	**Bostic**, Joe	G	6-3	265	9	Clemson
72	**Dulin**, Gary	DE	6-4	275	2	Ohio State
73	**Duda**, Mark	NT	6-3	279	5	Maryland
76	**Mays**, Stafford	DE	6-2	250	8	Washington
79	**Clasby**, Bob	T	6-5	260	2	Notre Dame
80	**Marsh**, Doug	TE	6-3	238	8	Michigan
81	**Green**, Roy	WR	6-0	195	9	Henderson
83	**Tilley**, Pat	WR	5-10	178	12	Louisiana Tech
84	**Smith**, J.T.	WR	6-2	185	10	North Texas State
89	**LaFleur**, Greg	TE	6-4	236	7	Louisiana State

CARDINALS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	CARDINALS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	273	304
Rushing	102	125
Passing	149	149
Penalty	22	30
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	70/214 32.7%	80/220 36.4%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	8/15 53.3%	8/14 57.1%
TOTAL NET YARDS	4503	4864
Avg. Per Game	281.4	304.0
Total Plays	994	1037
Avg. Per Play	4.53	4.69
NET YARDS RUSHING	1787	2227
Avg. Per Game	111.7	139.2
Total Rushes	419	560
NET YARDS PASSING	2716	2637
Avg. Per Game	169.8	164.8
Tackled/Yards Lost	59/424	41/355
Gross Yards	3140	2992
Attempts/Completions	516/293	436/215
Pct. of Completions	56.8	49.3
Had Intercepted	19	10
PUNTS/AVERAGE	92/37.1	83/42.5
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.0	33.7
PENALTIES/YARDS	116/932	86/682
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	25/10	40/12
TOUCHDOWNS	27	40
Rushing	8	17
Passing	17	21
Returns	2	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
CARDINALS	15	79	41	83	0	218
Opp. Total	82	106	64	99	0	351

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Lee	0-0	2-3	5-6	1-4	0-0	8-13
Schubert	0-0	2-2	0-4	1-5	0-0	3-11

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mitchell	174	800	4.6	44	5
Ferrell	124	548	4.4	25	0
Anderson	51	156	3.1	14	2

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
J.T. Smith	80	1014	12.7	45	6
Ferrell	56	434	7.8	30t	3
Green	42	517	12.3	48t	6
Mitchell	41	276	6.7	24	0
Marsh	25	313	12.5	27	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mack	4	42	10.5	24	0
Washington	2	19	9.5	19	0
Carter	2	12	6.0	11	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Cater	61	2271	37.2	4	16	52	1
Arapostathis	30	1140	38.0	0	5	50	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Sikahema	43	16	522	12.1	71t	2
J.T. Smith	1	0	6	6.0	6	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Sikahema	37	847	22.9	44	0
Swanson	10	206	20.6	40	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Lomax	421	240	2583	57.0	6.14	13	3.1	12	2.9	48t	52/381	73.4
Stoudt	91	52	542	57.1	5.96	3	3.3	7	7.7	24t	7/43	53.4

CARDINALS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Kelly **STOUFFER** *QB*	6-3, 214	**Colorado St.**	'86 first team All-WAC, comp. 205 of 374 passes (54.8%) for 2604 yds. & 7 TD's...Offensive Player of the Game for West squad in East-West Shrine Game.
2	Tim **McDONALD** *SS*	6-3, 205	**USC**	'86 first team All-PAC 10...140 tackles (78 solos)...2 sacks, 6 tackles for 33 yds. in losses...3 fmb. cau., 1 fmb. rec., 12 pass deflections, 3 int's...blked a fg & a punt.
3A	Robert **AWALT** *TE*	6-5, 240	**San Diego St.**	'86 first team All-WAC..caught 45 passes for 541 yds. (12.0 avg.) & 2 TD's.
3B	Colin **SCOTTS** *DE*	6-6, 265	**Hawaii**	'86 second team All-WAC...74 tackles (44 solos), 9 sacks & 10 tackles for 56 yds. in losses...3 fmb. rec. & 4 pass deflections.
4	Rod **SADDLER** *DE*	6-5, 265	**Texas A&M**	'86 second team All-SWC...74 tackles (42 solos), 3 sacks & 5 tackles for 15 yds. in losses.
5A	George **SWARN** *TB*	5-11, 210	**Miami-Ohio**	'86 second team All-MAC...third in the conference in rushing with 1112 yds. on 251 carries (4.4 avg.) & 5 TD's.
5B	John **BRUNO** *P*	6-1, 189	**Penn St.**	Team's starting punter last 3 years...'86 punted 65 times for 2660 yds. (40.9 average) with a long of 65 yds.
5C	Ilia **JAROSTCHUK** *MLB-DE*	6-3, 235	**New Hampshire**	'86 first team All-Yankee Conference & All-ECAC, despite a knee injury...56 tackles (36 solos), 3 sacks & 10 tackles for 34 yds. in losses...3 deflected passes.
6	Mark **GARALCZYK** *DT-NG*	6-6, 268	**W. Michigan**	Bench presses over 400 lbs...All-MAC first team...102 tackles (72 solos), 17 tackles for 80 yds. in losses...6 sacks.
7A	Tim **PEOPLES** *FS*	6-1, 200	**Washington**	'86 All-PAC 10...101 tackles (54 solos), 2 fmb. cau., 3 pass deflections, 2 int's...finalist Jim Thorpe Award.
7B	William **HARRIS** *TE*	6-6, 242	**Bishop**	Sporting News pre-season All-American...'86 voted offensive captain...caught 28 passes for 483 yds. & 5 TD's.
8	Steve **ALVORD** *DT-NG*	6-4, 269	**Washington**	'86 All-Pac 10 Hon.Men...82 tackles (39 solos)...7 sacks & had 9 tackles for 71 yards in losses...2 fmb. cau. & deflected 2 passes.
9	Wayne **DAVIS** *MLB*	6-2, 215	**Alabama**	'86 second team All-SEC...85 tackles (38 solos), 2 tackles for 4 yds. in losses & deflected 2 passes.
10	Charles **WRIGHT** *DB*	5-9, 170	**Tulsa**	'86...47 tackles (27 solos), 4 int's, 10 deflections, 4 fmb. rec.
11	Todd **PEAT** *OG*	6-2, 288	**N. Illinois**	Able to bench press over 430 lbs...third team All-American...led the team with a 88% blocking grade.

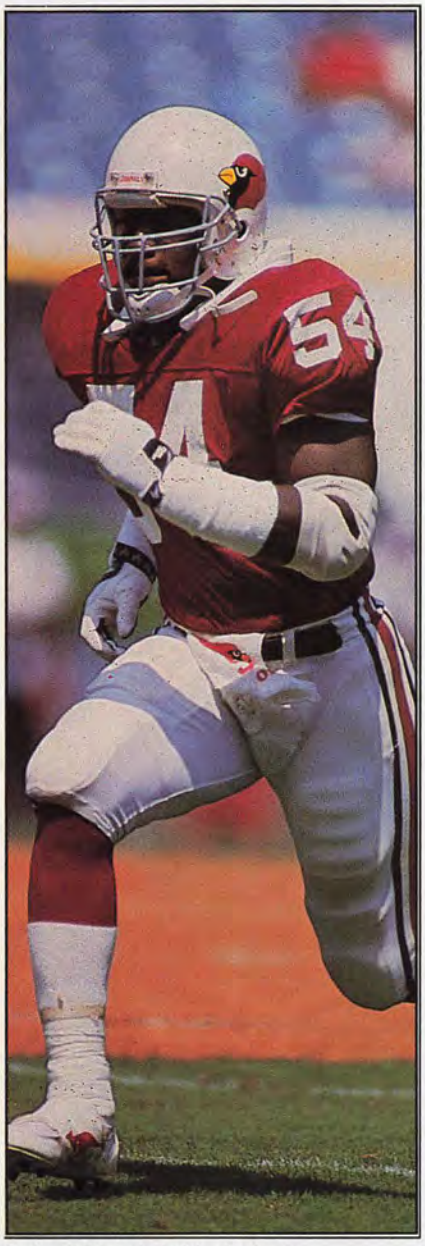
ST. LOUIS

continued from page 39

"Our defensive backs need to develop better hands, because we need to start coming up with some interceptions," Stallings said.

The special teams were a mixed bag in 1986. The return game and the kick coverages were excellent. The place-kicking and the punting were horrible.

Sikahema went to the Pro Bowl after averaging 12.1 yards per punt return (with two touchdowns) and 22.9 yards per kickoff return.



Cardinals' E.J. Junior is defensive threat

Running back Vai Sikahema is welcome addition to St. Louis

But punter Greg Cater averaged only 37.2 yards per punt, 27th in the league. And for the second successive year, the Cardinals finished with the league's worst field goal percentage.

John Lee, a controversial No. 2 draft pick in '86, made eight of 13 field goals before suffering a late-season knee injury. Lee's range was suspect; he made only one of four kicks from beyond 39 yards. Former Giants kicker Eric Schubert came on and made only three of 11 field goals.

In the last two seasons, the Cardinals have converted only 24 of 52 field goals, an embarrassing percentage of 46.2.

"I think John Lee can be a good kicker," Stallings said. "It's crucial that we upgrade our kicking game. It cost us some games."

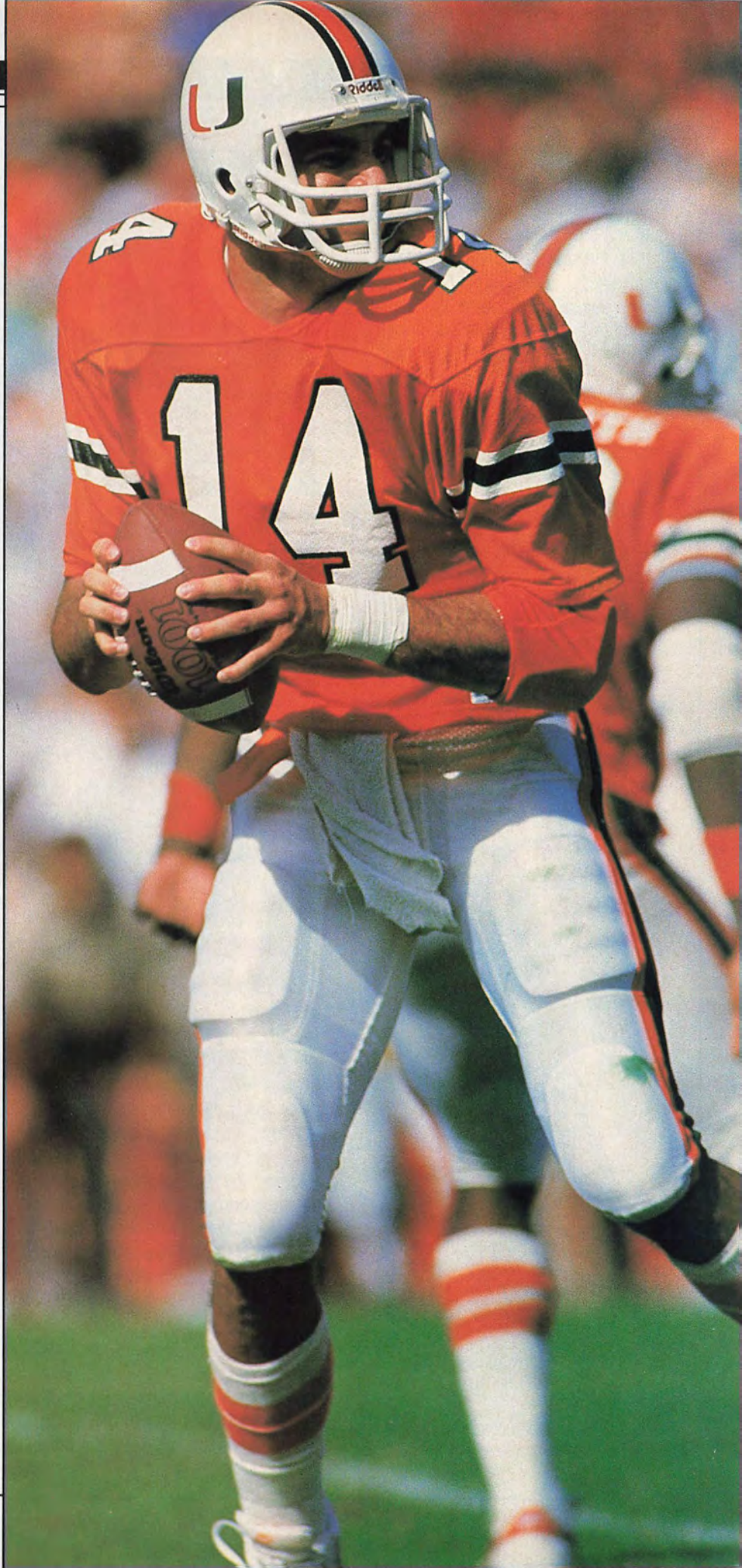
The season was a transition year for Stallings and the players. Stallings came in with a chip on his shoulder, and the dizzied players continually had to scramble to adjust to the new ways of the new sheriff.

Now that everyone knows each other, and the relationship is reasonably comfortable, the football may improve.

"I think we can turn it around," said Stump Mitchell. "We know what Gene wants and expects. We were competitive last season, and now we just have to win some close games and develop some confidence. More than anything, we just haven't learned how to win."□

NFL DRAFT ANALYSIS

BY WILL McDONOUGH



Vinny is Plum of '87 NFL DRAFT

Pete Rozelle is smiling and relaxed. Why not? What was going to happen the rest of the day was fun for him, the life blood for the 28 teams that make up the National Football League.

"This is something," said Rozelle, leaning back in his chair, watching bodies scramble into the seats at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City, site of the 1987 NFL college draft. The ballroom on the sixth floor is charged with electricity and Rozelle senses it. He marvels inwardly how it all has changed since he came to power as Commissioner in 1966 when almost every team drafted out of magazines rather than computers.

"It amazes me how well these fans know the game," said Rozelle, looking around the jammed packed ballroom lit brightly from all the television lamps in the room, catching the action. "When I stand up there (at the podium) waiting for the next pick, you can see them start to get anxious. They all have an idea of who it is going to be, and they want to get it over with.

"You hear a lot of good one-liners. The best was the year after the Steelers won their first Super Bowl. Remember the game where L.C. Greenwood was so great knocking down (Fran) Tarkenton's passes. Well, the next spring Minnesota is picking 27th and they pass. When I got up and announced, 'Minnesota passes' this guy in the balcony, shouts, 'And Greenwood knocks it down'. It was wonderful."

The NFL draft for 1987 was wonderful for some, not so wonderful for others, and more than any draft in history, true to form. For the most part, teams did what they were expected to do, except when it came to quarterbacks.

Here is a closer look at it by division and team:

AFC

Eastern Division

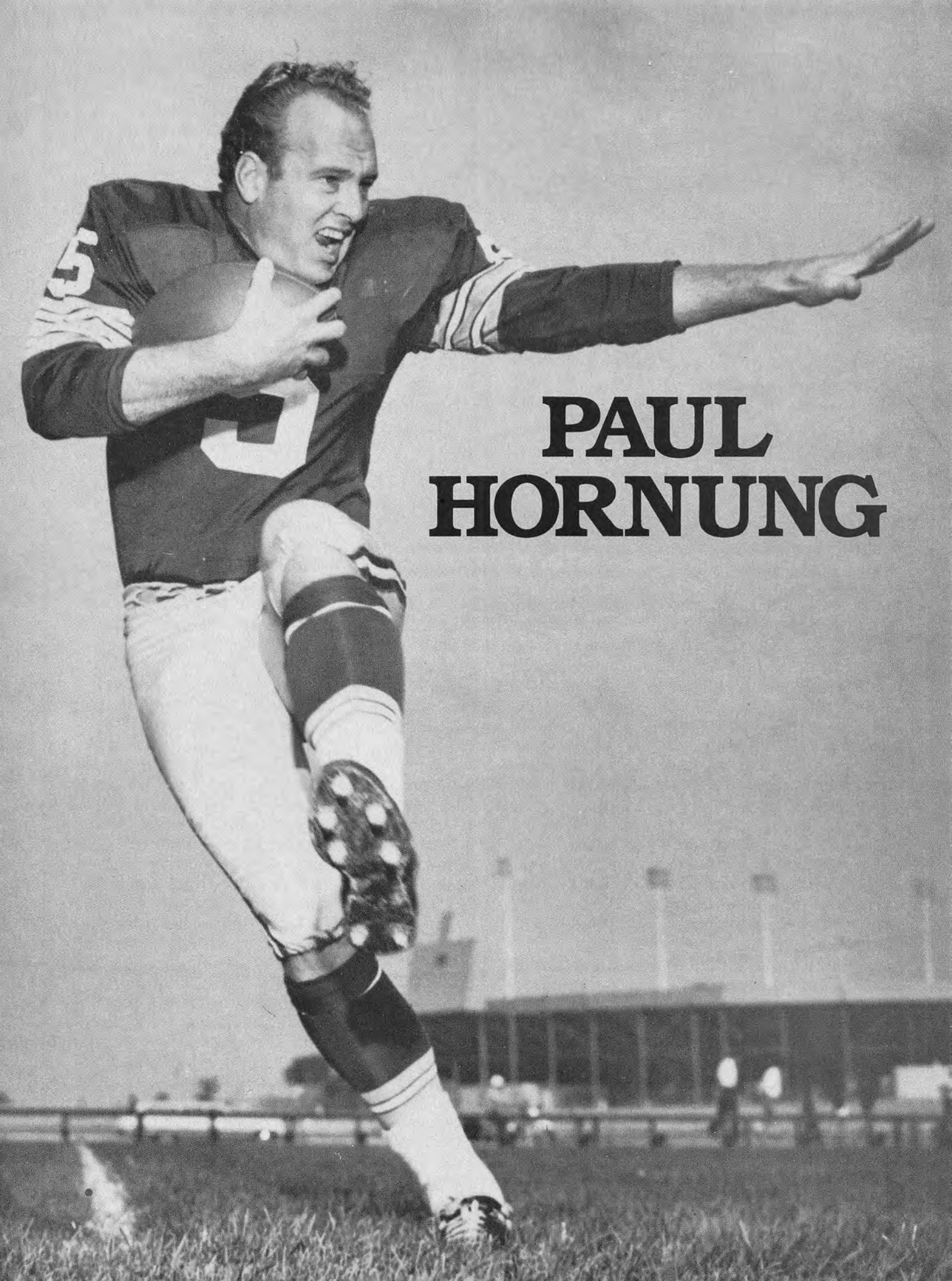
1. Best in Show: Buffalo—Rates the best overall in the division, trading wisely, and rebuilding their defense, making a sound move swapping picks with Houston on the first round, getting an additional choice in the process. "We wanted Shane Conlan (Penn. State linebacker) and we thought we could get him even if we traded back to Houston's spot (eight overall)," said Bills general manager Bill Polian, getting high marks in his first draft performance. The Bills continued the defensive thrust drafting Nate Odomes of Wisconsin (2nd rated) and R.J. Reynolds (5th rated) to toughen their defensive backfield. The move to defense came after owner Ralph Wilson got sick of seeing his team lose games (six in number) in the final period last year after having the lead with five minutes to play.

2. Indianapolis—A gut wrenching draft for the Colts. Two nights prior, fullback Randy McMillan, their only legitimate running back, broke both legs in a car accident that will force him to miss the coming season. General manager Jim Irsay had said right along that he would pick linebacker Cornelius Bennett of Alabama, considered by most the best defensive player in the draft. Head coach Ron Meyer wanted to switch to running back Alonzo Highsmith, but the Irsays stood firm, turning back more than a half dozen offers to trade the pick. The Colts helped their offensive line with choices two and three, Chris Gambol of Iowa and Randy Dixon of Pitt.

3. Miami—Don Shula said it was going to be defense, and it was, taking lineman John Bosa of Boston College. "He should give our pass rush a lift," said Shula, "and this is what we were looking for. We just haven't been getting any pressure on opposing passers." Shula took pass rushing linebacker Chris Graf on the second round, and how he plays, will eventually give the final grade for this Dolphin draft. "We hope we get as lucky as we did a year ago when we took John Offerdahl on the second round." Offerdahl went to the Pro Bowl as a rookie.

4. New England—Had a draft before the draft, by trading for veteran offensive guard Sean Farrell of Tampa Bay. On draft day, player personnel director Dick Steinberg left little doubt what he was looking for by selecting offensive lineman Bruce Armstrong of Louisville and fullback Bob Perryman of Michigan. The Patriots finished 28th and last in the league in rushing. Farrell, Armstrong and Perryman, a blocker more than a runner, should put some muscle back into their

■ *continued on page 186*


PAUL
HORNUNG

HALL OF FAME'S "GOLDEN BOY"

By Billy Reed

He was known as "The Golden Boy" for his curly blond hair and movie star looks, but also for the style, the charm and the talent that enabled him to become more than just a great football player.

From Louisville Flaget High to Notre Dame to the Green Bay Packers, Paul Hornung always had the right stuff to make the biggest headlines, collect the heaviest trophies, and go out with the prettiest girls.

So he became a folk hero who, even now, is besieged for autographs whenever he leaves his hometown in Louisville, KY, to go out in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, or wherever else there are fans who grew up dreaming of becoming Mr. Touchdown, U.S.A.

At 51, his golden locks now turned mostly silver, Hornung still charges through life with a wink, a laugh, and the absolute certainty that something good is about to happen to him.

After all, since he last carried a football in 1966, Hornung has made a small fortune in business, developed a successful television career and become soooooo happily married that his old cronies love to tease him about it.

His athletic career became complete last August when he became the ninth member of Vince Lombardi's great Green Bay teams of the early 1960s to be inducted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

As proud as Hornung was, he said he didn't need the honor to know what he meant to those Packer teams. In his office, he swivels in his chair and looks at the portrait of Lombardi that hangs behind his desk.

"He said I was the greatest player he ever coached," Hornung said, "and that's good enough for me. That says it all."

Some experts will contend that Hornung, who played both ways and was the last great triple-threat back (run, pass, and kick), may have been the best football player in history. If so, then it's important to know where he came from and how he traveled the long, winding road to Canton.

The bleachers at the Recreation Bowl in Mount Sterling, KY, were so close to the field that every time Hornung kicked an extra point, the football went over the stands and out of the park.

This got to be a problem on the night of Nov. 14, 1952, when Hornung's Louisville Flaget High School team destroyed Lexington Lafayette 39-7 to finish a 9-1-1 season and claim the mythical state title.

Every time Hornung kicked an extra point, a kid would grab the ball and take off with it. By the final quarter, the game balls were gone and the officials had to borrow one from Flaget.

Knowing that University of Kentucky coach Paul "Bear" Bryant was scouting him from the press box, Hornung had coach Paulie Miller give the officials an old, scuffed ball that he always used in pregame kicking practice.

"I could kick it a mile," Hornung said. "So on the kickoff, I had the wind with me and I happened to hit it just right. It must have gone 90 yards in the air—through the goal posts, out of the end zone and over the stadium wall. Bryant almost fell out of the press box."

And so the Hornung legend was born—or, at least, enhanced. As a senior, the blond quarterback had run Miller's split-T so well that he had more than 60 scholarship offers, a huge number in those days before coast-to-coast recruiting.

A natural athlete, Hornung had been reared by his mother, Loretta. He was still a baby when his parents divorced.

Growing up in the Portland neighborhood, young Hornung never thought of himself as poor. While his mom scrimped and saved from what she earned at the U.S. Army Medical Depot, Paul grew to excel in both academics and athletics.

When it was time for Paul to go to high school, Louisville had only four with varsity teams: Male, Manual, St. Xavier and Flaget. He picked Flaget, even though by then he had moved to a different part of town and attending Flaget meant traveling six or seven miles one way.

An all-male Catholic school in the West End, Flaget has been closed for years. But in those days it was a powerhouse where Miller was coaching the new split-T he had learned under Don Faurot.

The Flaget students mostly were street-wise kids from working-class families who weren't exactly strangers to playground fights. Hornung immediately stood out, and not just because of his obvious athletic ability.

"Paul was not a tough guy," said former teammate Mike McDonald, now a judge on the Kentucky Court of Appeals. "I never knew him to be in a fight, and that almost made you a pervert when you were from Portland."

Howard Schnellenberger, the current University of Louisville coach who was a year ahead of Hornung at Flaget, paints a picture of the young Hornung that's definitely at odds with his adult image.

"He didn't do anything wrong," Schnellenberger said. "The All-American boy. A lot of us drank a little beer and stayed out later than we should and did things that growing boys did. But not Paul."

When Miller had seen Hornung play in junior high—"He was real cocky under the center," Miller said—he knew he would suit his formation to, well, a T.

■ *continued on page 98*

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SB-XII – Dallas Cowboys
SB-XIII – Pittsburgh Steelers
SB-XIV – Pittsburgh Steelers
SB-XV – Oakland Raiders
SB-XVI – San Francisco 49ers
SB-XVII – Wash. Redskins
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Patriots - 56 Tippett	Jets - 99 Gastineau	Dolphins - 83 Clayton
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CHICAGO BEARS

EGOS AND CONFLICTS PLAGUE BEARS

BY BRYAN HEWITT

If egos were skyscrapers, the Chicago Bears would be Manhattan.

Egos, and considerable talent, enabled them to win 18 and lose just one game enroute to a world championship two years ago. Egos and injuries left them disappointed with a 14-2 regular season, and a playoff loss to Washington one game later.

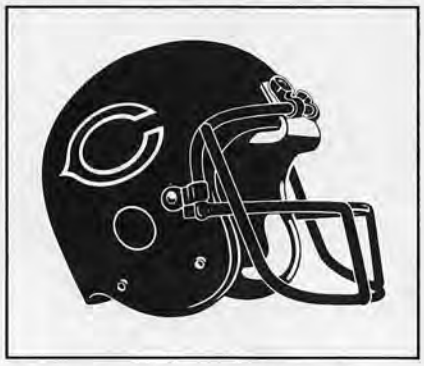
Meanwhile, nobody's sure how much longer team president Michael McCaskey will allow head coach Mike Ditka to coach the team. The two barely tolerate each other. The 1987 season is the last on Ditka's current contract with the Bears, and McCaskey has never appeared in a hurry to renew.

Several weeks after firing general manager Jerry Vainisi (Ditka's best friend), McCaskey announced a front office reorganization that included promotions for controller Ted Phillips, marketing director Bill McGrane, and personnel boss Bill Tobin.

Tobin is now a vice president, although his duties haven't really changed. The 29 year-old Phillips will deal with agents on player contracts (with help from McCaskey). And the veteran McGrane will serve as unofficial buffer between Ditka and McCaskey.

When Ditka's ego isn't clashing with McCaskey's, it's usually going one-on-one with injury-prone QB Jim McMahon. McMahon suffered a shoulder injury in the first game of the season. And he warred with Ditka over his recovery rate all the way up to December 12th, when Los Angeles orthopedist, Dr. Frank Jobe, performed major surgery.

Early reports have McMahon ahead of schedule in his rehabilitation. But there are no guarantees the 1985 NFC Pro Bowl starter will return in 1987. Nor are there any guarantees that he will ever play again. Sadly for the Bears, better lines of communication between Ditka and McMahon would probably have moved the surgery date up three months, giving



McMahon that much more time to prepare for this season.

McMahon never returned after the late hit by Packer Charles Martin in Week 12. By then, Ditka had already started force-feeding his offense 5' 9'' former Heisman winner Doug Flutie. Flutie failed miserably in the playoffs when the Redskins took advantage of his short stature by mounting an inside rush. And the pressure that had been building on the defense all year was finally too much to bear.

The Bear defense had weathered the loss of popular defensive coordinator Buddy Ryan, integrated the diametrically opposed precepts of new defensive coordinator Bill Tobin, and set an NFL record for least points allowed (187) in a 16-game season.

The defensive players said all along that people, not coaches, had made the defense. And that appeared to be true, although Tobin shows much promise as an NFL coach.

''It just shows we have a lot of Pro Bowlers on this team,'' said linebacker Wilbur Marshall, who started for the NFC in the Pro Bowl.

Perhaps the best commentary by any Bear regarding 1986 was the non-statement made by veteran defensive lineman Dan Hampton. Hampton said he was tired of the media circus that had grown up around the Bears. He refused to talk to reporters and broadcasters during the year.

The Bears don't figure to know much more about McMahon's status until July, when he is scheduled to start throwing again. Clearly, they need him. Including playoff games, the Bears have won the last 23 games that McMahon started. But he started only six times in 1986. And he has played in just 28 of the last 48 regular-season games over the past three years. Even if his shoulder heals, the rest of McMahon's body will not be any less prone to injury.

Three other Bear quarterbacks—Mike Tomczak (7), Steve Fuller (2), and Doug Flutie (1)—made regular-season starts last year. Tomczak was 7-0, but never managed to win Ditka's confidence. Part of the problem was his annoying tendency to audible away from calls Ditka sent in from the sideline.

Obviously, the Bears can't keep four QBs in 1987. And that will be the main

thrust of the media focus during training camp. But a more interesting story began playing itself out at the end of last season, when young RBs Thomas Sanders and Neal Anderson began outstripping 32-year-old Walter Payton. To be sure, Payton led his team in rushing with 1333 yards in 321 carries, 4th best in the NFC and 5th best in the NFL. He has started 166 straight NFL games, and has missed only one game in his remarkable 12 years as a professional. He is the league's all-time rushing leader, and will break Jim Brown's record for career rushing TDs (106) with his first of 1987. Moreover, the Bears led the NFL in rushing for the 4th straight year. Their starting line of Jim Covert, Jay Hilgenberg, Kurt Becker, Tom Thayer, and Keith Van Horne features two two-time pro Bowlers (Covert and Hilgenberg) and no one over 30.

At the end of the year, Payton simply wasn't the back he had been. He appeared to lose at least a step. He will turn 33 on July 25th. The Bears have already said that his future contracts will be for just one year at a time. Friends say Payton will probably not play past 1988.

Ditka has hinted he may experiment with Payton at fullback next year in order to accommodate the quickness of Sanders and the electricity of Anderson, the team's number one 1986 pick. Payton, the best blocker among the Bear backs, didn't rebel at the suggestion. The odd man out in a switch of Payton would be FB Matt Suhey, whose production fell to 270 yards rushing in 1986. Sanders scored 5 TDs in just 27 carries, including a 75-yarder against Cincinnati, the longest by a Bear in eight years. Anderson gained 143 yards on 43 carries and showed special promise catching passes out of the backfield. He and Flutie hooked up on a 5-yard TD against Dallas in the regular-season finale. McMahon's problems weren't the only reason the Bears managed only 208 receptions last season, the 2nd lowest total in the league. The knee injury that limited underrated WR Dennis McKinnon in '85 forced him to miss all of '86. His return in 1987 is hoped for, but not expected.

The good news is that the team's average of 14 yards per catch was their highest in 15 years. Six Bears had single catches that resulted in gains of 50 yards or more. The main reason for that was Willie Gault.

Arguably the fastest man in the NFL, Gault grabbed a career-high 42 catches. But by the end of the season, teams were double and triple-teaming him, daring the Bears to throw to Keith Ortego or Dennis Gentry. Gentry, a converted RB, will probably beat out Ortego, who underwent off-season shoulder surgery.

The tight ends are steady, if not spectacular. Starter Emery Moorehead finished third on the team with 26 catches, but he is 33 years old.

Younger, but slower, Tim Wrightman gained 99 of his 241 reception yards in the last five games of the season. However, he didn't endear himself to Ditka when he criticized Flutie, Ditka's pet. "Doug throws a heavy ball," Wrightman observed. "It's harder to catch." That the Bear defense set a record for least points allowed in '86 was remarkable, particularly in light of the team's turnover/take-away ratio. In 1985, the Bear offense committed only 31 turnovers. In 1986, they gave the ball away 47 times. When the offense has the ball, the defense gives up zero yards. When the offense turns the ball over, the defense hurries on to the field and turns into a damage-control unit.

Yet 1986 also marked the third straight year the Bears led the NFL in least yards allowed. Youth, coaching, and talent are all reasons why no one should be surprised if they make it four straight in 1987.

Three of the Bears' starting defensive linemen —Hampton, Steve McMichael, and Richard Dent—have played in a Pro Bowl in the last two seasons. The fourth—William "The Refrigerator" Perry—appears to have more interest in the mixing bowl. Perry's weight ballooned to 350 pounds in 1986, and his mobility was noticeably affected. Perry's phenomenal commercial success has rendered meaningless money as a method for the Bears to keep his weight down through fines. Only Perry can determine his own future.

The Bear linebacking trio of Otis Wilson, Mike Singletary, and Marshall have taken turns in the last two years mounting search-and-destroy missions for the complex Bear defense. Singletary, the NFC's Player of the Year for 1985, had a Pro Bowl year in 86. But a painful groin injury kept him from maintaining his own demanding standards. But it was outside linebacker Marshall, unique in his ability to rush the passer on one play and cover a wide receiver on the next, who opened the most eyes last year. Marshall finished the season third on the team in interceptions (five), fourth in tackles (5.5), and tied for first in fumbles recovered (3), and forced fumbles (4). He also scored the defense's only two touchdowns.

Wilson led the Bears' linebackers with eight sacks, yet failed to repeat as a Pro Bowler because the voters were too preoccupied with Singletary and Marshall. Wilson will turn 30 during the season, Singletary is 29. Marshall is only 25.

The defensive secondary benefits from the pass rush. But strong safety Dave Duerson has emerged as the finest at his position in the NFC. He blended seven sacks with six interceptions, and complemented veteran free safety Gary Fencik.

The outspoken Fencik, 33 in June, says he will return. More importantly, Ditka says that he wants Fencik back. Fencik is the Bears' all-time leading tackler. And when he intercepted a pass on December 7th against Tampa, he became the team's all-time leading pass interceptor with 38. He also holds the team record for take-aways (interceptions and fumble recoveries) with 50. Dick Butkus held the old mark at 47.

The Bears are decidedly weaker at the corners. Mike Richardson has steadily improved each year. But his inconsistency sticks out like a sore thumb, at a position where inconsistency is a dirty word. Rookie Vestee Jackson beat out smallish Reggie Phillips at the other corner. And teams picked on him

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
2	**Flutie**, Doug	QB	5-9	176	2	Boston College
4	**Fuller**, Steve	QB	6-4	195	9	Clemson
6	**Butler**, Kevin	K	6-1	204	3	Georgia
8	**Buford**, Maury	P	6-1	191	6	Texas Tech
9	**McMahon**, Jim	QB	6-1	190	6	BYU
18	**Tomczak**, Mike	QB	6-1	195	3	Ohio State
20	**Sanders**, Thomas	RB	5-11	203	3	Texas A&M
21	**Frazier**, Doug	CB	6-0	187	6	Alcorn State
22	**Duerson**, Dave	S	6-1	203	5	Notre Dame
23	**Gayle**, Shaun	CB	5-11	193	4	Ohio State
24	**Jackson**, Vestee	CB	6-0	186	2	Washington
25	**Bell**, Todd	S	6-1	205	6	Ohio State
26	**Suhey**, Matt	FB	5-11	216	8	Penn State
27	**Richardson**, Mike	CB	6-0	188	5	Arizona State
29	**Gentry**, Dennis	WR	5-8	181	6	Baylor
33	**Thomas**, Calvin	FB	5-11	245	6	Illinois
34	**Payton**, Walter	RB	5-10	202	13	Jackson State
35	**Anderson**, Neal	RB	5-11	210	2	Florida
36	**Douglass**, Maurice	DB	5-11	200	2	Kentucky
45	**Fencik**, Gary	S	6-1	196	12	Yale
48	**Phillips**, Reggie	DB	5-10	170	3	Southern Methodist
49	**Walton**, Riley	TE	6-3	237	1	Tennessee State
50	**Singletary**, Mike	LB	6-0	228	7	Baylor
51	**Morrissey**, James	LB	6-3	215	3	Michigan State
52	**Rubens**, Larry	C	6-2	262	4	Montana State
53	**Rains**, Dan	LB	6-1	222	4	Cincinnati
54	**Cabral**, Brian	LB	6-1	232	8	Colorado
55	**Wilson**, Otis	LB	6-2	232	8	Louisville
57	**Thayer**, Tom	G-C	6-4	261	3	Notre Dame
58	**Marshall**, Wilber	LB	6-1	225	4	Florida
59	**Rivera**, Ron	LB	6-3	239	4	California
62	**Bortz**, Mark	G	6-6	269	5	Iowa
63	**Hilgenberg**, Jay	C	6-3	258	7	Iowa
68	**Blair**, Paul	OT	6-4	295	2	Oklahoma State
70	**Waechter**, Henry	DT	6-5	275	6	Nebraska
71	**Frederick**, Andy	T	6-6	195	10	New Mexico
72	**Perry**, William	DT	6-2	325	3	Clemson
73	**Hartenstine**, Mike	DE	6-3	254	13	Penn State
74	**Covert**, Jimbo	T	6-4	271	5	Pittsburgh
75	**Humphries**, Stefan	G	6-3	268	4	Michigan
76	**McMichael**, Steve	DT	6-2	260	8	Texas
78	**Van Horne**, Keith	T	6-6	280	7	Southern California
79	**Becker**, Kurt	G	6-5	267	6	Michigan
80	**Wrightman**, Tim	TE	6-3	237	3	UCLA
81	**Barnes**, Lew	WR	5-8	163	2	Oregon
83	**Gault**, Willie	WR	6-1	183	5	Tennessee
85	**McKinnon**, Dennis	WR	6-1	190	6	BYU
87	**Moorehead**, Emery	TE	6-2	220	11	Colorado
88	**Kozlowski**, Glen	WR	6-1	193	1	BYU
89	**Ortego**, Keith	WR	6-0	180	3	McNeese State
90	**Harris**, Al	LB	6-5	253	8	Arizona State
95	**Dent**, Richard	DE	6-5	263	5	Tennessee State
99	**Hampton**, Dan	DE	6-5	267	9	Arkansas
	Pickering, Clay	WR	6-5	215	3	Maine
	Popp, Jim	LB	6-1	245	1	Vanderbilt

mercilessly. He held up reasonably well and should be better in '87.

When the analytical Tobin took over from the crusty Ryan, both he and Ditka promised more zone pass coverage and less blitzing. But early on, they both realized the talent the Bears had assembled was better suited playing Ryan's style.

The compromise was a successful one. But it had its dark moments—like against the Redskins in the playoffs, when Washington scored two TDs after cornerbacks were left one-on-one with wide receivers. ''I didn't want to be predictable,'' Tobin replied when asked about his return to the blitz. Somewhere in Philadelphia, Ryan quietly understood.

Chicago's Dan Hampton (99) breaks through the line

Bears' Walter Payton leads ground attack year after year

Former starting cornerback Leslie Frazier, injured in Super Bowl XX, hopes to return in '87 with a rehabilitated knee. But Bear doctors are not holding their breath. If Fencik's age catches up in a hurry, look for former Pro Bowler Todd Bell to move in at strong safety, while Duerson switches to free.

As long as Ditka remains, the Bears will remain efficient in their special teams. Ditka coached special teams at Dallas before coming to Chicago. And the Bears' current special teams coach, Steve Kazor, is the only aide Ditka brought with him from Dallas when he replaced Neill Armstrong.

But Ditka must get more consistency from his No. 1 special teams weapon, place-kicker Kevin Butler. As a rookie in '85, Butler made 28 of 29 inside the 40. Last year, he slipped to 21 of 27. Worse, his kick-offs remained painfully short. Too often teams started drives against the Bears with excellent field position.

In Butler's defense, he kicked game-winning field goals in three different games. His midseason streak of 18 consecutive goals set a team record. But he followed that with an inexplicable and dangerous slump.

The fact that Maury Buford led the NFL in lowest percentage of punts returned (23 of 69), was a tribute to Buford's improvement and the coverage of rookie Neal Anderson. It is a Catch-22 that Anderson's expected increased playing time in 1987 will limit his duties as a special team member.

Meanwhile, Dennis Gentry returns in 1987 as the NFL's leading kick-off returner. His 28.8-yard average return in '86 made him the first Bear since Payton as a rookie (1975) to lead the NFL in the category. Gentry's backup, Lew Barnes, also returned three kick-offs, one an 85-yard TD against Tampa Bay. All of which means Ditka doesn't have to worry about Gault's absence from the return teams. The 6'5'' Hampton will continue to lend his presence as a kick-blocker. He blocked one field goal and one extra point last season.□

BEARS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	BEARS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	305	241
Rushing	166	67
Passing	118	151
Penalty	21	23
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	77/207 37%	74/228 32%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	5/12 42%	11/21 52%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5459	4130
Avg. Per Game	341.2	258.1
Total Plays	1045	1002
Avg. Per Play	5.2	4.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	2700	1463
Avg. Per Game	168.8	91.4
Total Rushes	606	427
NET YARDS PASSING	2759	2667
Avg. Per Game	172.4	166.7
Tackled/Yards Lost	24/153	62/503
Gross Yards	2912	3170
Attempts/Completions	415/208	513/243
Pct. of Completions	50.1	47.4
Had Intercepted	25	31
PUNTS/AVERAGE	70/40.7	100/40.9
NET PUNTING AVG.	36.9	33.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	98/765	110/861
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	36/22	27/16
TOUCHDOWNS	38	20
Rushing	21	4
Passing	12	12
Returns	5	4

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
BEARS TOTAL	88	84	82	92	6	352
Opp. Total	35	36	65	51	0	187

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Butler	1-1	11-14	9-12	6-8	1-6	28-41

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Payton	321	1333	4.2	41	8
Suhey	84	270	3.2	17	2
Sanders	27	224	8.3	t75	5

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Gault	42	818	19.5	t53	5
Payton	37	382	10.3	57	3
Moorehead	26	390	15.0	85	1
Suhey	24	235	9.8	58	0
Ortego	23	430	18.7	t58	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Richardson	7	69	9.9	32	0
Duerson	6	139	23.2	38	0
Marshall	5	68	13.6	t58	1

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Buford	69	2850	41.3	8	19	59	1

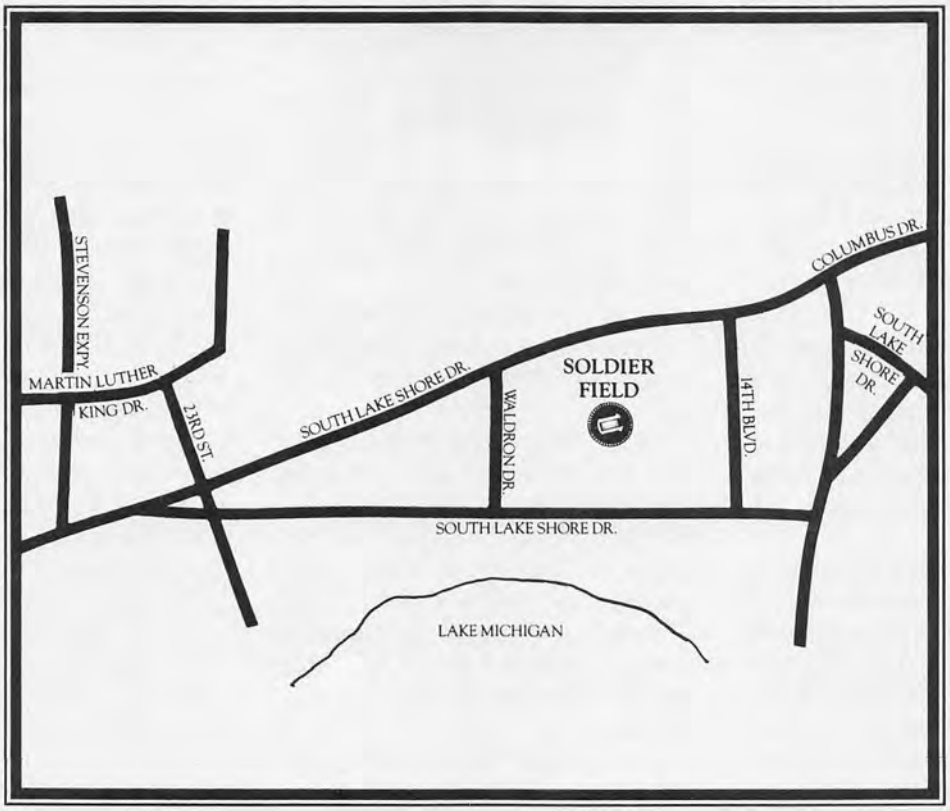
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Barnes	57	9	482	8.5	35	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Gentry	20	576	28.8	t91	1
Sanders	22	399	18.1	44	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Tomczak	151	74	1105	49.0	7.32	2	1.3	10	6.6	85	4/30	50.2
McMahon	150	77	995	51.3	6.63	5	3.3	8	5.3	t58	6/40	61.4

BEARS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Jim **HARBAUGH** *QB*	6-3, 207	**Michigan**	'86 All Big 10 Conference...first passer in school history to pass for over 2000 yds. in a season... comp. 167 of 254 passes (65.8%) & 10 TD's...second in the country in pass. eff. with 157.0 rating.
2	Ron **MORRIS** *WR*	6-1, 192	**SMU**	'86 first team All-SWC...led team with 46 recpts. for 556 yds. (13.2 avg.) & 3 TD's.
4	Sean **SMITH** *DE*	6-4, 275	**Grambling State**	'86 first team All-SWAC & All-American...87 tackles (53 solos), 7 sacks & 11 tackles for 61 yds. in losses...deflected 2 passes.
5A	Steve **BRYAN** *DE*	6-3, 260	**Oklahoma**	'86 All-Big 8, co-captain, 50 tackles, (23 solos), 5 sacks
5B	Will **JOHNSON** *DE*	6-5, 223	**NE Louisiana**	'86 first team All-Southland...50 tackles (37 solos), a sack & 3 tackles for 9 yds. in losses...1 fmb. rec...missed 2 games with knee injury.
6	John **ADICKES** *C*	6-3, 261	**Baylor**	One of strongest players on team, bench pressing over 500 lbs...'86 first team All-SWC for the second year in a row.
7	Archie **HARRIS** *OT-G*	6-6, 263	**William & Mary**	Can bench press over 400 lbs...'86 first team All-ECAC...led the team with an 89% blocking grade.
8	Paul **MIGLIAZZO** *LB*	6-1, 228	**Oklahoma**	'86...63 tackles (31 solos), 4 for a loss of 7 yds., 1 int., fmb. rec.
9	Lakei **HEIMULI** *FB*	5-11, 216	**Brigham Young**	Closed out career with 2710 rushing yds...'86 first team All-WAC...carried the ball 230 times for 966 yds. (4.2 avg.) & 7 TD's.
10	Dick **CHAPURA** *DE-T*	6-3, 276	**Missouri**	'86 second team All-Big 8...defensive co-captain...71 tackles (26 solos), 5 sacks & 8 tackles for 43 yds. in losses.
11	Tim **JESSIE** *TB*	6-0, 198	**Auburn**	'86 teams's third leading rusher, gaining 282 yds. on 61 carries & 3 TD's...caught 8 passes for 45 yds...missed 2 games with an ankle injury.
12	Eric **JEFFRIES** *DB*	5-10, 161	**Texas**	'86 2 int's, returned for 15 yds., career 16 passes broken up.



MINNESOTA VIKINGS

KRAMER LEADS POTENT VIKE ATTACK

BY JOHN NICHOLSON

An injured punter, two replays and a fourth-down conversion equalled three losses in 1986 for the Minnesota Vikings.

First-year coach Jerry Burns, 60, was one victory away from taking the Vikings (9-7) to their first playoff berth since the strike-shortened 1982 season.

"From an offensive standpoint, the personnel we have is good enough to be a playoff team," Burns said.

He saw the best season of quarterback Tommy Kramer's 10-year career overshadowed by the trio of game-deciding events that went against his team.

Back-to-back victories over San Francisco (27-24 in overtime) and Chicago (23-7) gave the Vikings a 5-2 start, but optimism turned into frustration in the following weeks when Cleveland (an injured punter), Washington (two replays) and the New York Giants (a fourth-down conversion) handed the Vikings heartbreaking losses. Houston ended their playoff bid with a 23-10 victory in the 15th week.

Burns misjudged Greg Coleman's leg injury and entered the Cleveland game without a punter. Coleman's replacements—backup quarterback Wade Wilson and kicker Chuck Nelson—helped the Browns turn a 17-3 deficit into a 23-20 victory.

Instant replay changed the outcome of a 44-38 overtime loss a week later at Washington. Kramer's best game of the season—an NFL-high 490 yards and four touchdowns —wasn't enough to offset the Vikings' misfortunes.

One play after replay officials reversed an apparent same-clinching interception, Redskins tight end Clint Didier caught a 44-yard pass on the 2-yard line to set up the tying touchdown. Replays indicated that Didier had trapped the ball.

Surprisingly, the Vikings were one of 21 teams that voted to continue instant replay in 1987.

Phil Simms salvaged a 22-20 Giants' victory two weeks later when he set up a game-winning field goal with a fourth-

and-17 conversion in the final minute. Giants receiver Bobby Johnson was uncovered on the play.

"This team has got to get better and improve from a technique standpoint and an intelligence standpoint," Burns said.

Despite missing three games and parts of two others with injuries, Kramer captured the NFL's passing-efficiency title with a 92.6 rating—one-tenth of a point better than Miami's Dan Marino— and earned a starting spot in the Pro Bowl.

"We know we can play with anybody and beat anybody," Kramer said. "Last season's experience will help us this season."

Burns was rewarded for his 9-7 record with a tough 1987 non-conference schedule. Denver, Washington, Atlanta and the Los Angeles Raiders are home opponents. Seattle, Kansas City, Dallas, and the Los Angeles Rams are road opponents.

General Manager Mike Lynn remains in control of the team despite a bitter legal feud that could take years to settle. Lynn and a coalition of board members are fighting a takeover effort headed by Erwin Jacobs and Minnesota Twins' owner Carl Pohlad.

Lynn has taken advantage of the USFL failure by acquiring wide receiver Anthony Carter, offensive tackle Gary Zimmerman and linebacker David Howard. Defensive tackle Keith Millard, the Vikings' top draft choice in 1984, joined the team in 1985 after two seasons in the USFL.

Strong lower-round drafting also helped the Vikings rebound from a 7-9 record in 1985 and a 3-13 mark in 1984. Linebacker Jesse Solomon, who will battle 10-year veteran Scott Studwell for a starting position, was a 12th-round pick in 1986.

Kramer, 32, has not played a full regular-season schedule since the strike-shortened 1982 season. He suffered a sprained thumb against the Giants and an elbow injury against Houston.

"Everything was going well until Tommy's injury," Burns said. "We're not strong enough to beat the top teams without him."

Kramer signed a lucrative three-year contract extension—which goes into effect this season—before the 1986 season. He can earn nearly $1 million a season with incentives.

Last season's rating—made possible

when he cut his interception total from 26 in 1985 to 10—was 21.3 points better than his previous career average.

Offensive coordinator Bob Schnelker's aerial attack ranked second in the NFC in 1986, but Kramer and Wade Wilson were sacked 44 times.

Burns would like a big back, but will likely enter the season with the same cast that ranked 14th in the NFC in rushing in 1986. Vikings backs didn't go far with the ball in 1986, but they did hang on to it, losing three fumbles on 526 carries.

Halfback Darrin Nelson generated 1,491 yards on 247 plays—15.4 plays a game—in 1986. Nelson, 28, rushed for 793 yards and caught 53 passes for 593 yards. He returned three kickoffs for 105 yards.

Nelson would like to get the ball 10 more times a game, but hasn't convinced Burns that his 5-foot-9, 183-pound frame can take that kind of punishment.

Former Baylor teammates Alfred Anderson and Allen Rice split time at fullback last season. Anderson is the closest thing the Vikings have to a big back at 6-foot-1 and 220 pounds. He rebounded from a forgetable 1985 season (121 yards on 50 carries) with 347 yards in 1986, but fell far short of his rookie mark of 773 yards. Rice, a better blocker and receiver than Anderson, rushed for 220 yards and gained 391 yards receiving in 1986.

Insufficient depth may permit eight-year veteran Ted Brown, who cleared waivers before the start of the 1986 season, to continue his career another season.

Insufficient depth is not a problem at wide receiver.

Carter finished third in receiving last season with 38 receptions and an 18.1-yard average. He joined the Vikings in 1985 after three seasons in the USFL.

Flanker Leo Lewis 31, caught 32 passes for 600 yards in 1986. He could be the regular punt returner in 1987.

Buster Rhymes, who returned to the team in training came last season after offseason substance-abuse treatments, broke his wrist in the fifth game of 1986.

Hassan Jones, a fifth-round draft pick in 1986, led the team with a 20.4-yard average on 28 receptions last season.

Steve Jordan earned a trip to the Pro Bowl and led the team in receiving with 58 receptions and 859 yards in 1986. He caught seven touchdown passes after being shutout in 1985.

Mike Mullarkey, a better blocker than Jordan, caught 11 passes in 1986. He will compete for playing time with Carl Hilton, who made the team in 1986 as a seventh-round draft pick.

General Manager Mike Lynn remains in control of the team despite a bitter legal feud that could take years to settle.

Zimmerman's presence at left tackle transformed a below-average offensive line into an adequate one. Lynn acquired Zimmerman's NFL rights from the Giants in a 1986 draft-day trade. Zimmerman, 6-foot-6 and 280 pounds, played two seasons in the USFL with the Los Angeles Express.

Right tackle Tim Irwin has started every game since 1982.

Veteran Jim Hough is the starting left guard and the team's long snapper. Right guard Terry Tausch is a four-year starter.

If he can get in shape, Curtis "Boo-Boo" Rouse could see considerable playing time in 1987. Rouse, 6-foot-3 and somewhere around 330 pounds, was waived during training camp and resigned during the season.

Center Dennnis Swilley is a nine-year veteran. Backup Kirk Lowdermilk can also play guard.

Studwell, the team's all-time tackler leader, plans to retire at the end of the 1987 season. Last season he failed to lead the team in tackles for the first time since 1979.

"I'd like to play one more year," Studwell said. "There comes a time when you have to realize that you can't play forever."

Solomon, the 51st linebacker and 318th player selected in the 1986 draft, may push Studwell into retirement sooner than he expects. Solomon is both bigger (6-foot-1 and 249 pounds) and faster (4.5 in the 40) than Studwell.

Chris Martin is a two-year starter on the left side. Howard, begining his third-season, is the right-side starter.

Defensive coordinator Floyd Peters arrived last season with a 4-3 front, but injuries forced him to use nine different starting defensive line combinations.

Right tackle Millard, 6-foot-5 and 260 pounds, led the team with 10 1/2 sacks in 1986.

"He's our catalyst," Burns said. "When he's in there we play a lot more aggressively than we do without him."

Tim "Fig" Newton moved to left tackle in 1986 after playing noseguard in 1985.

Left defensive end Doug Martin played in every game last season, but failed to record a sack for the first time in his seven-year career.

Despite his protests, Chris Doleman, the Vikings' first-round pick in 1985, will play end rather than linebacker.

Gerald Robinson, the team's top draft choice in 1986, can play either side. He missed four games after an impressive early-season performance.

Pro Bowl strong safety Joey Browner led the team with 98 solos and 139 tackles in 1986.

"Speed, strength, quickness, size, he's got it all," Peters said.

Beyond Browner, the backfield is either old (Steve Freeman, 33; John Harris, 31; and Rufus Bess, 31) or inconsistent (Issiac Holt and Carl Lee).

Harris, acquired in a preseason trade with Seattle, started at free safety in 1986. Lynn added Freeman in an offseason

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Nelson**, Chuck	K	5-11	172	4	Washington
8	**Coleman**, Greg	P	6-0	184	11	Florida A&M
9	**Kramer**, Tommy	QB	6-2	205	11	Rice
11	**Wilson**, Wade	QB	6-3	213	7	East Texas State
20	**Nelson**, Darrin	RB	5-9	189	6	Stanford
21	**Bess**, Rufus	CB	5-9	189	9	South Carolina State
23	**Brown**, Ted	RB	5-10	212	9	North Carolina State
26	**Evans**, David	CB	6-0	178	2	Central Arkansas
27	**Lush**, Mike	S	6-2	195	2	East Stroudsburg State
30	**Holt**, Issiac	CB	6-1	200	3	Alcorn State
36	**Rice**, Allen	RB	5-10	204	4	Baylor
37	**Teal**, Willie	CB	5-10	192	8	Louisiana State
39	**Lee**, Carl	DB	5-11	183	5	Marshall
41	**Guggemos**, Neal	S	6-0	187	1	St. Thomas
44	**Harris**, John	S	6-2	198	10	Arizona State
46	**Anderson**, Alfred	RB	6-1	220	5	Baylor
47	**Browner**, Joey	S	6-2	212	5	USC
51	**Hough**, Jim	C	6-2	269	10	Utah State
53	**Schuh**, Jeff	LB	6-3	234	7	Minnesota
54	**Soloman**, Jesse	LB	6-0	235	1	Florida State
55	**Studwell**, Scott	LB	6-2	230	11	Illinois
56	**Doleman**, Chris	LB	6-5	250	3	Pittsburgh
57	**Martin**, Chris	LB	6-2	239	5	Auburn
58	**Ashley**, Walker Lee	LB	6-0	231	4	Penn State
62	**Boyd**, Brent	G	6-3	280	7	UCLA
63	**Lowdermilk**, Kirk	C	6-3	269	3	Ohio State
65	**Zimmerman**, Gary	T	6-6	277	2	Oregon
66	**Tausch**, Terry	G	6-5	276	6	Texas
67	**Swilley**, Dennis	C	6-3	266	10	Texas A&M
68	**Rouse**, Curtis	G	6-3	335	6	Chattanooga
71	**MacDonald**, Mark	G	6-4	267	3	Boston College
72	**Huffman**, David	T	6-6	284	8	Notre Dame
74	**Stensrud**, Mike	DT	6-5	280	9	Iowa State
75	**Millard**, Keith	DT	6-6	262	3	Washington State
76	**Irwin**, Tim	T	6-7	288	7	Tennessee
77	**Mullaney**, Mark	DE	6-6	248	13	Colorado State
78	**Schippang**, Gary	T	6-4	279	1	West Chester
79	**Martin**, Doug	DE	6-3	264	8	Washington
80	**Gustafson**, Jim	WR	6-1	181	2	St. Thomas
81	**Carter**, Anthony	WR	5-11	175	3	Michigan
82	**Hilton**, Carl	TE	6-3	232	1	Houston
83	**Jordan**, Steve	TE	6-3	239	6	Brown
84	**Jones**, Hassan	WR	6-0	195	1	Florida State
85	**White**, Sammy	WR	5-11	198	12	Grambling
86	**Mularkey**, Mike	TE	6-4	234	5	Florida
87	**Lewis**, Leo	WR	5-8	170	7	Missouri
88	**Rhymes**, Buster	WR	6-1	218	3	Oklahoma
91	**Phillips**, Joe	DT	6-4	278	1	SMU
95	**Robinson**, Gerald	DE	6-3	256	1	Auburn
96	**Newton**, Tim	DT	6-0	287	3	Florida
99	**Howard**, David	LB	6-2	232	3	Cal State Long Beach

Steve Jordan's sure hands handle the ball for the Vikings

trade with Buffalo. Bess can play any of the backfield positions.

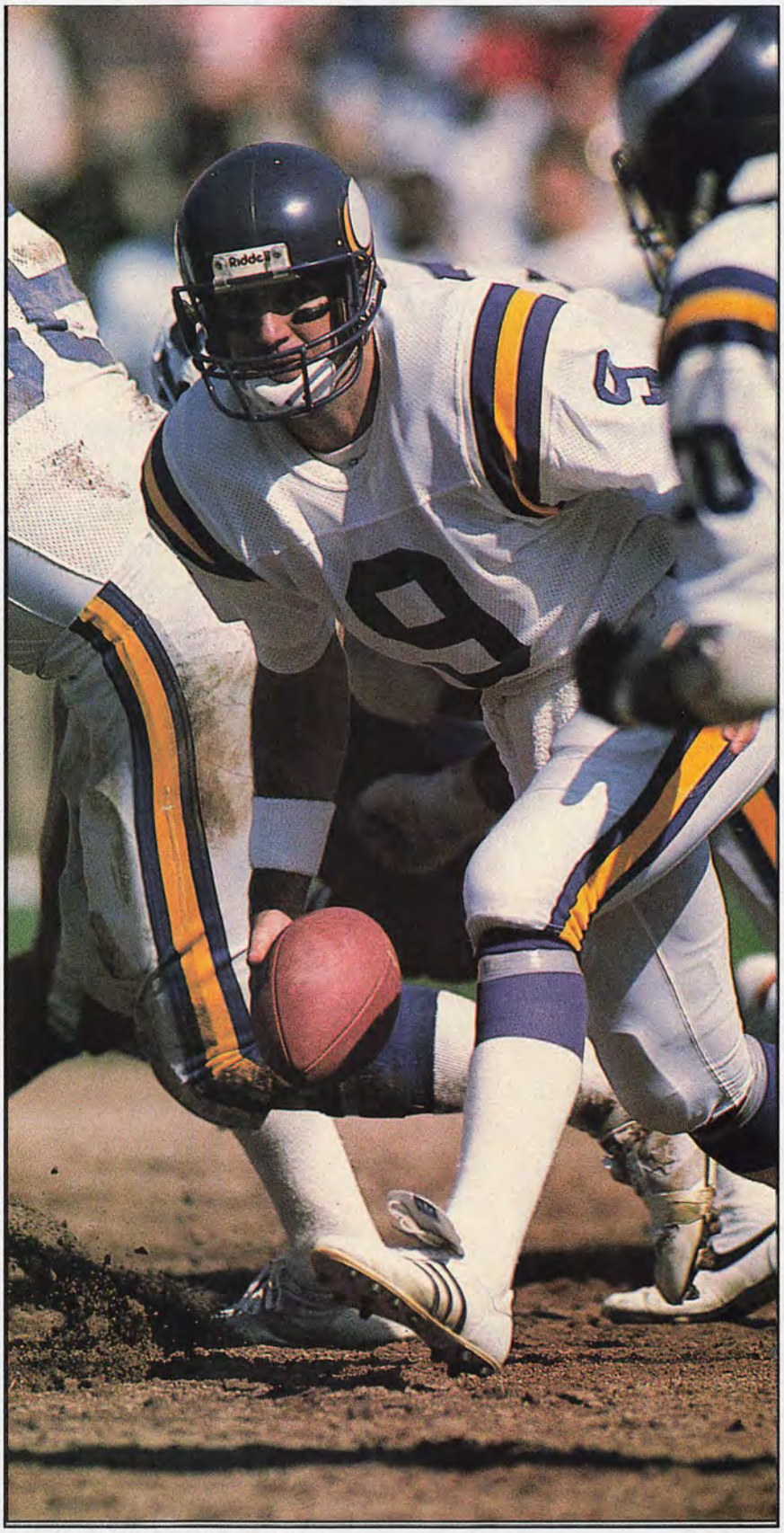
Left cornerback Holt intercepted eight passes in 1986 despite his defensive deficiencies. Burns benched Holt for a game last season, but has been patient with the third-year player's development. Lee is a four-year starter on the right side.

Nelson, last active in 1984 with Buffalo, made the team in training camp in 1986. He made 22 of 28 field-goal attempts and 44 of 47 extra-point conversions.

Coleman's midseason leg injury cost the Vikings the Cleveland game and a playoff spot. His 41.4-yard average and 34.9-yard net average ranked seventh in the NFC.

Rhymes led the NFL with a 25.4-yard average in 1985, Bess averaged 22.7 yards on 31 returns in 1986.

Bess is the incumbent, but Lewis will return more punts in 1987 than he did in 1986. □



Tommy Kramer is hoping for an injury-free season

VIKINGS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	VIKINGS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	321	286
Rushing	114	106
Passing	186	155
Penalty	21	25
3rd Down: Made/Att.	89/212	80/217
4th Down: Made/Att.	12/15	8/17
TOTAL NET YARDS	5651	5012
Avg. Per Game	353.2	313.3
Total Plays	1024	1013
Avg. Per Play	5.5	4.9
NET YARDS RUSHING	1738	1796
Avg. Per Game	108.6	112.3
Total Rushes	461	481
NET YARDS PASSING	3913	3216
Avg. Per Game	244.6	201.0
Tackled/Yards Lost	44/272	38/259
Gross Yards	4185	3475
Attempts/Completions	519/290	494/276
Pct. of Completions	55.9	55.9
Had Intercepted	15	24
PUNTS/AVERAGE	73/40.0	75/40.3
NET PUNTING AVG.	34.1	36.6
PENALTIES/YARDS	96/890	98/791
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	31/14	32/18
TOUCHDOWNS	48	28
Rushing	14	10
Passing	31	16
Returns	3	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
VIKINGS TOTAL	151	85	71	88	3	398
Opp. Total	60	75	43	89	6	273

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
C.Nelson	0-0	7-8	9-10	4-7	2-3	22/28

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
D.Nelson	191	793	4.2	42	4
Anderson	83	347	4.2	29	2
Brown	63	251	4.0	60	4

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Jordan	58	859	14.8	68t	6
D.Nelson	53	593	11.2	34	3
Carter	38	686	18.1	60t	7
Lewis	32	600	18.8	76t	2
Rice	30	391	13.0	32t	3

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Holt	8	54	6.8	27	0
Browner	4	62	15.5	39t	1
Harris	3	69	23.0	28	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Coleman	67	2774	41.4	4	15	69	0
Wilson	2	76	38.0	0	0	46	1

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bess	23	10	162	7.0	15	0
Lewis	7	4	53	7.6	13	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bess	31	705	22.7	43	0
Rhymes	9	213	23.7	34	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Kramer	372	208	3000	55.9	8.06	24	6.5	10	2.7	76t	31/178	92.6
Wilson	143	80	1165	55.9	8.15	7	4.9	5	3.5	39	13/94	84.4

VIKINGS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	D.J. **DOZIER** *HB*	6-1, 210	**Penn St.**	'86 first team All-ECAC, All-East & All-American carrying the ball 171 times for 811 yds. & 10 TD's.
2	Ray **BERRY** *OLB*	6-2, 227	**Baylor**	'86 first team All-SWC...league Defensive Player of the Year & All-American honors...99 tackles (61 solos), 3 sacks & 10 tackles for 49 yards in losses...4 pass deflections & 1 fmb. rec.
3	Henry **THOMAS** *NG*	6-2, 263	**LSU**	'86 first team All-SEC...83 tackles (55 solos), 3 sacks & 10 tackles for 38 yds. in losses...1 fmb. cau. & fmb. rec, with 2 pass deflections.
4	Reginald **RUTLAND** *S-CB*	6-2, 192	**Georgia Tech**	'86 All-ACC Hon.Men...49 tackles (40 solos) & 5 pass deflections, 5 int's.
6	Greg **RICHARDSON** *WR-KR*	5-8, 166	**Alabama**	'86 second team All-SEC...second on team with 239 catches for 393 yds. (17.1 avg.) & 3 TD's...returned 42 punts for 329 yds. & a score.
8	Rick **FENNEY** *FB*	6-2, 242	**Washington**	'86 All-Pac 10 Conference Hon. Men., 508 yds. on 121 carries (4.2 avg.) & 6 TD's...caught 18 passes for 122 yds.
9	Leonard **JONES** *CB*	6-2, 185	**Texas Tech**	'86...13 pass deflections...68 tackles (33 solos), 1 fmb. cau., 2 fmb. rec, 4 int's.
10	Bob **RILEY** *OT*	6-6, 271	**Indiana**	Stars on the school's wrestling team, compiling a 17-8-1 record as a junior...'86 2nd team All-Big 10...voted the team's Outstanding Lineman for the 2nd year in a row , receiving a 90% blocking grade on the year.
11	Brent **PEASE** *QB*	6-2, 250	**Montana**	'86...3,056 passing yds., 241 comp. in 440 attps, 13 int's, 30 TD's.
12	Keith **WILLIAMS** *DT*	6-4, 250	**Florida**	'86...first team All-SEC...106 tackles, (59 solos), 8.5 career sacks.

DETROIT LIONS

CAN LONG LEAD THE LIONS BACK?

BY CURT SYLVESTER

Let's say for the sake of argument that Chuck Long turns out to be everything the Detroit Lions hope and pray he'll be in 1987.

Let's say his release is quick and sure. That he learns to read NFL defenses to a tee. That his arm strength improves and his accuracy is flawless.

Let's say he's the personification of the franchise quarterback Darryl Rogers was dreaming about when he took Long in the first round of the NFL draft in 1986.

Do you have any idea what that would mean to a team like the Detroit Lions?

Could it turn the Lions from a 5-11 team in 1986 in to an 11-5 team in 1987? Could it mean the playoffs? Could it mean an end to 30 years of mediocrity for the Detroit franchise?

Probably not.

As important as the development of Long is to the Lions, it's not likely the Lions will escape company of the NFL have-nots until they make some serious moves to improve their defense.

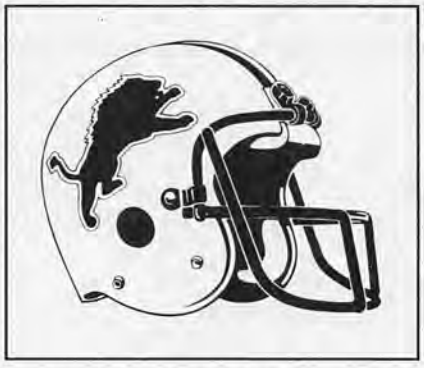
With all due respect to Ken O'Brien, Phil Simms, John Elway, Jim McMahon and Tony Eason, Rogers knows it is not just the quarterbacks who have made the New York Jets, Giants, Denver, Chicago and New England five of the best teams in the NFL.

"The best example is the Jets," Rogers said. "They were 10-1 and then they lose five (starters) off the defense and now everybody's yelling at their offense.

"The defense is the reason they were 10-1 and a good football team. The Giants are outstanding on defense, the Bears are outstanding on defense, the New England Patriots are outstanding on defense.

"They've got the offense because the defense gets the ball back so much sooner and in better field position to score."

After two years in the NFL—a 7-9 season in 1985 and 5-11 in 1986—Rogers understands it is more than merely lip



service when coaches talk about winning with defense.

"I see everybody wins in this league on defense," Rogers said.

"We have to be able to stop the run. For two years in a row we've gotton better. Our pass defense has gotten much better but a couple of times last year when we had to stop people, we weren't able to. We've just got to see if we can upgrade our (defensive) football team."

And after losing two seasons, Rogers doesn't want to tax the patience of club owner William Clay Ford, Rogers says he wants to see results from the Lions in 1987. No, he expects to see results in 1987.

"The basis of professional sport is to win," Rogers said. "No matter what the circumstances are on a ball club, you're paid to win football games. That's why I personally want to see us improve.

"We've got to see some results. That means, to me, we've got to see us playing better football offensively and defensively."

Playing no better than they did in 1986—against a much tougher schedule in 1987—the Lions could finish with even fewer victories this season.

The highlight of 1986 was that the Lions played well enough to stay close to some of the best teams they played—Cleveland (24-21), the Los Angeles Rams (14-10) and Chicago (13-7).

By midway in the season, the Lions were out of the NFC Central division race and things got even worse. The Lions wasted leads in losing to Green Bay and Pittsburgh on back-to-back weekends, finishing the year on a four-game losing streak.

"It showed last year every time we got ourselves in trouble and fought our way back, we would then allow things to occur to lose the football game," Rogers said. "We're not that far away. We just want to get a little better."

At least, Rogers sees signs of hope. Offensively, the Lions are not far from being a capable— although certainly not awe inspiring—football team. The offensive line is solid. The running game shows potential. The acquisition of veteran Jimmie Giles settled a recurring problem at tight end. The only glaring deficiency is a big play wide receiver.

Two veterans—Eric Hipple and Joe Ferguson—provide stability at quarterback but it is Long, the former Iowa All-

American, who seemingly could make the Lions into something special.

Long spent most of his rookie season on the bench after missing most of training camp in prolonged contract negotiations between his agent, Jack Mills of Boulder, CO., and Lions general manager Russ Thomas.

He debuted with a touchdown pass on his first NFL attempt Nov. 23 at Tampa Bay but drew mixed reviews in starts against Chicago and Atlanta in the final two games of the season.

On the urging of Rogers, Long spent the off-season working with Lions receivers in the Silverdome, preparing for the 1987 season. The hope is that he'll be ready to play in the Sept. 13 season opener at Minnesota.

"We'd like that to occur," Rogers said. "We really won't know for sure until after the pre-season whether he's ready to take the start. I think he's close. I think he wants to, I don't think there's any question about that."

"Our expectations are a lot higher now than they were at this time last year."

There are thoses who have questioned Long's arm strength as a passer and quarterbacks coach Bob Baker admitted in February that increased arm strength was the primary objective of Long's off-season workout program.

It's a question that doesn't seem to bother either Rogers or Long.

When reminded of Long's limited throwing arm, Rogers replies simply: "But he wins."

"I don't have an arm like John Elway," Long said. "People had better realize that right now.

"But I make up for it with a lot of other things. I don't think Phil Simms has the strongest arm in football, either, but he went 22-for-25 in the Super Bowl.

"I work hard at keeping my arm strong and getting it stronger all the time, but a lot of that is God-given ability. I never said I was going to throw the ball 80 yards in the air anyway, so I'm not worried too much about it."

Regardless of who is playing quarterback, he will not be blessed with the most dangerous reeceivers in the NFL.

Wide receiver Jeff Chadwick was five yards from his first 1,000-yard receiving season before an achilles injury sidelined him for the final game of the season.

Chadwick averaged 18.8 yards on 53 catches and five touchdowns, but seems better suited to complementing a big play receiver than being it.

Carl Bland is primarily a possession receiver, Leonard Thompson will be 35 when the season opens and is beyond his prime, although he still is a clutch receiver.

Aside from that, however, the Lions offense is well equipped.

The Lions' Jeff Chadwick goes in for the score

The offensive line is sound from tackle to tackle. Rogers considers left tackle Lomas Brown a future Pro Bowl player. Right guard Keith Dorney was a Pro Bowler in 1982. Left guard Harvey Salem (acquired from Houston last season), right tackle Rich Strenger and center Steve Mott complete the experienced starting unit.

Fullback James Jones, who rushed for 911 yards in the most productive season of his four-year career, is a fixture in the Lions' backfield. He's a big back, a strong blocker, skilled receiver and a smart player.

Garry James, a second round draft choice, needed only six weeks to make the adjustment from LSU wingback to NFL halfback and convinced Rogers he can pick up at least some of the slack for Billy Sims, who retired a year ago because of a knee injury.

The Lions biggest needs going into 1987 are on the defensive side.

For the last two seasons, Lions' defensive coordinator Wayne Fontes has struggled to put together a respectable defense out of rejects, over-achievers and a precious few talented players.

To Fontes' credit, the Lions finished 11th overall among NFL defenses in 1986. And they did it without a single first round draft choice in the lineup during the last half of the season.

Linebacker Jimmy Williams, the Lions' only first round draft choice on the roster, finished the season on injured reserve.

The only two second rounders starting for Fontes were defensive end William Gay (who origianlly was drafted as a tight end) and linebacker Vernon Maxwell (who was dumped by Indianapolis and San Diego before signing with Detroit in 1985).

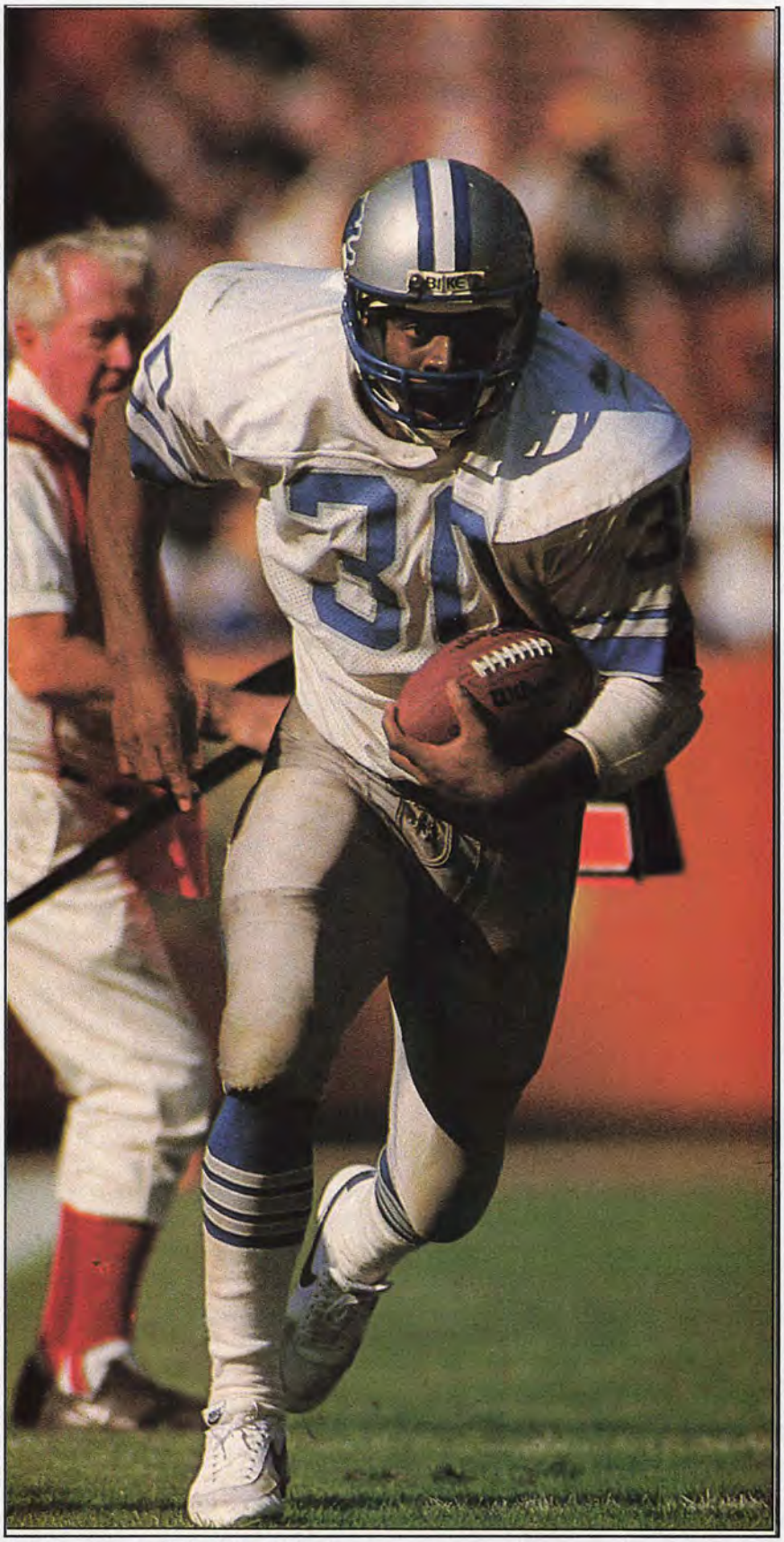
Rogers fondest desire would be to find a pass rusher in time for the 1987 season. Defensive left end Keith Ferguson, who was signed after being cut by San Diego late in the 1985 season, led the Lions in quarterback sacks with 9 1/2 but the effectiveness of right end William Gay continued to decline.

Gay led the Lions in sacks in 1983 with 13 1/2 but in the ensuing years has slipped to 10 sacks in 1984, seven in 1985 and 6 1/2 last year.

Another area of concern is nose tackle, where Eric Williams played last season. Although he was adequate at times, the better centers—like Pittsburgh's Mike Webster—frequently handled him one-on-one.

The linebackers, considered a critical area when the Lions went to training camp, turned out to be the strength of the defense.

Jimmy Williams played well on the



James Jones makes another beautiful run for Detroit

left side until being sidelined by a knee injury and Mike Cofer, on the right side, made dramatic improvement in his first full season since being moved off the defensive line. Cofer was the fourth-leading tackler (72) and second-leading quarterback sacker (7 1/2) on the team.

Maxwell, who had played all of his career as an outside backer, was a much more disciplined and effective player after moving inside, James Harrell and Shelton Robinson shared time at the other inside backer.

Perhaps the Lions' biggest catch of the 1986 draft was free safety Devin Mitchell from Iowa.

Although many NFL scouts questioned his ability as a hitter, Lions defensive back Willie Shaw convinced Rogers to draft Mitchell in the fourth round and neither of them regretted it.

Mitchell led the team in interceptions (5) and showed no reluctance in putting his helmet into opposing ball carriers.

The rest of the defensive backfield performers were spotty, although it must be noted they played with precious little help from the Lions' pass rushers.

Cornerbacks Duane Galloway and Bruce McNorton had four interceptions each. Strong safety Demetrius Johnson had a strong first half of the season but his performance dropped in the second half.

There could be improvement in the defensive backfield in 1987, however, if safety William Graham plays as well as he did late in '86 and if cornerback Bobby Watkins (20 interceptions in his first four seasons) comes back from a season-long foot injury.

The Lions kicking game remains solid with Ed Murray still considered a consistent placekicker with adequate range. Jim Arnold, the former Kansas City punter who was signed in mid-season, averaged 42.6 yards and will get first shot at the punting job again this season.

The biggest special teams problem was on coverage units. The Lions lost twice—to Cleveland and Green Bay—because of breakdowns which resulted in punt return touchdowns.□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Murray**, Eddie	K	5-10	175	8	Tulane
6	**Arnold**, Jim	P	6-3	211	5	Vanderbilt
12	**Ferguson**, Joe	QB	6-1	195	15	Arkansas
16	**Long**, Chuck	QB	6-4	211	1	Iowa
17	**Hipple**, Eric	QB	6-2	198	8	Utah State
21	**Johnson**, Demetrious	S	5-11	190	5	Missouri
24	**Moore**, Alvin	RB	6-0	190	6	Arizona State
27	**Watkins**, Bobby	CB	5-10	186	7	S.W. Texas State
29	**McNorton**, Bruce	CB	5-11	175	6	Georgetown College
30	**Jones**, James	FB	6-2	229	1	Florida
31	**Mitchell**, Devon	FS	6-1	194	1	Iowa
32	**James**, Garry	RB	5-10	214	2	Louisiana State
33	**Graham**, William	S	5-11	191	6	Texas
34	**Griffin**, James	S	6-2	197	5	Middle Tennessee
36	**Hunter**, Herman	RB-KR	6-1	193	3	Tennessee State
38	**Williams**, Scott	FB	6-2	234	2	Georgia
39	**Thompson**, Leonard	WR	5-11	192	13	Oklahoma State
40	**Galloway**, Duane	CB-S	5-8	181	2	Arizona State
42	**Bostic**, John	CB	5-10	180	3	Bethune-Cookman
47	**Hill**, Rod	CB	6-0	188	5	Kentucky State
51	**Robinson**, Shelton	ILB	6-2	236	6	North Carolina
52	**Mott**, Steve	C	6-3	267	5	Alabama
53	**Glover**, Kevin	G-C	6-2	267	3	Maryland
54	**Johnson**, James	OLB	6-2	236	2	San Diego State
55	**Cofer**, Mike	OLB	6-5	245	5	Tennessee
57	**Maxwell**, Vernon	ILB	6-2	235	5	Arizona State
58	**Harrell**, James	ILB	6-1	230	8	Florida
59	**Williams**, Jimmy	OLB	6-3	230	6	Nebraska
61	**Barrows**, Scott	G-C	6-2	278	3	West Virginia
62	**Green**, Curtis	DE-NT	6-3	265	7	Alabama State
64	**Sanders**, Eric	T-G	6-7	280	7	Nevada at Reno
66	**Evans**, Leon	DE	6-5	282	3	Miami
68	**Baack**, Steve	NT-G	6-4	265	4	Oregon
70	**Dorney**, Keith	G-T	6-5	285	9	Penn State
71	**Strenger**, Rich	T	6-6	285	4	Michigan
72	**Dieterich**, Chris	G	6-3	275	8	North Carolina State
73	**Salem**, Harvey	T-G	6-6	285	5	California
75	**Brown**, Lomas	T	6-4	282	3	Florida
76	**Williams**, Eric	NT	6-4	280	4	Washington State
77	**Ferguson**, Keith	DE	6-5	260	7	Ohio State
79	**Gay**, William	DE	6-5	260	10	Southern California
80	**Bland**, Carl	WR	5-11	182	5	Virginia Union
81	**Giles**, Jimmy	TE	6-3	240	11	Alcorn State
82	**Mandley**, Pete	WR-KR	5-10	191	4	Northern Arizona
83	**Kearse**, Tim	WR	5-10	182	2	San Jose State
84	**Rubick**, Rob	TE	6-3	234	6	Grand Valley State
87	**Lewis**, David	TE	6-3	235	4	California
89	**Chadwick**, Jeff	WR	6-3	190	5	Grand Valley State
92	**King**, Angelo	OLB	6-1	222	7	South Carolina State
96	**Butcher**, Paul	ILB	6-0	219	1	Wayne State

LIONS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	LIONS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	287	298
Rushing	100	134
Passing	156	148
Penalty	31	16
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	83/218 38%	86/213 40%
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	7/14 50%	5/7 71%
TOTAL NET YARDS	4555	5149
Avg. Per Game	284.7	321.8
Total Plays	1011	1027
Avg. Per Play	4.5	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	1771	2349
Avg. Per Game	110.7	146.8
Total Rushes	472	519
NET YARDS PASSING	2784	2800
Avg. Per Game	174.0	175.0
Tackled/Yards Lost	39/323	41/290
Gross Yards	3107	3090
Attempts/Completions	500/286	467/279
Pct. of Completions	57.2	59.7
Had Intercepted	20	22
PUNTS/AVERAGE	85/39.9	68/41.7
NET PUNTING AVG.	30.7	34.1
PENALTIES/YARDS	84/658	99/781
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	30/17	36/19
TOUCHDOWNS	32	36
Rushing	13	15
Passing	18	14
Returns	1	7

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
LIONS TOTAL	34	82	71	90	0	277
Opp. Total	63	100	62	101	0	326

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Murray	2-2	1-2	7-8	6-8	2-5	18-25

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Jones	252	903	3.6	39	8
James	161	688	4.3	60t	3
Moore	19	73	3.8	18	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Jones	54	334	6.2	21	1
Chadwick	53	995	18.8	73	5
Bland	44	511	11.6	34	2
James	34	219	6.4	26	0
Thompson	25	320	12.8	36t	5

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mitchell	5	41	8.2	17	0
Galloway	4	58	14.5	36	0
McNorton	4	10	2.5	10	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Black	46	1819	39.5	5	11	57	1
Arnold	36	1533	42.6	4	7	60	1

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mandley	43	9	420	9.8	81t	1

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Hunter	48	1007	21.0	54	0
Bland	6	114	19.0	24	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Hipple	305	192	1919	63.0	6.29	9	3.0	11	3.6	46	21/153	75.8
Ferguson, J.	155	73	941	47.1	6.07	7	4.5	7	4.5	73	10/101	62.9

LIONS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Reggie **ROGERS** *DT-E*	6-7, 255	**Washington**	'86 first team All-PAC 10 & All-American...winner of Morris Trophy, given to conference's top defensive linemen...95 tackles (41 solos), 4 sacks, & 10 tackles for 56 yds. in losses.
3	Jerry **BALL** *NG-DT*	6-0, 281	**SMU**	'86 first team All-SWC...95 tackles (59 solos), 4 sacks for 34 yds. in losses...3 fmb. rec., 2 fmb. cau.
4	Garland **RIVERS** *CB*	6-1, 190	**Michigan**	'86 All-Big 10...All-American...68 tackles (48 solos), 3 int's.
6	Danny **LOCKETT** *LB*	6-3, 226	**Arizona**	Second team All-PAC 10...102 tackles (65 solos)...9 sacks & had 14 tackles for 59 yds. in losses...1 fmb. cau. & 2 pass deflections.
7	Dan **SALEAUMUA** *DT*	6-1, 298	**Arizona St.**	'86 second team All PAC 10, 31 tackles (23 solos), 1 fmb. rec., 1 pass deflection.
8	Dennis **GIBSON** *LB*	6-3, 240	**Iowa St.**	'86 second on team with 94 tackles (56 solos), 3 fmb. cau., 1 int'ed pass.
9	Rick **CALHOUN** *RB*	5-8, 190	**Fullerton St.**	'86 All PCAA, rushed for 1,439 yds. on 259 carries, 11 TD's.
10	Raynard **BROWN** *WR*	5-9, 185	**So. Carolina**	'86 caught 28 passes for 289 yds. & 2 TD's...rushed 18 times for 62 yds. & 1 TD.
11	Brian **SIVERLING** *TE-OT*	6-7, 253	**Penn St.**	'86 Academic All-American & All-East, second leading receiver on team, with 21 catches for 279 yds. (13.3 avg.).
12	Gary **LEE** *WR*	6-2, 199	**Georgia Tech**	'86 in 10 games, 24 recpts., 386 yds., 4 TD's...also 1 K.O. return for a TD.

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

WILL PERKINS GET TAMPA BAY PERKIN'

BY JERRY GREENE ■ *[Steve Young was traded to San Francisco on 4/25.]*

Journey back in time to Dec. 22 of last year. Two earnest men were making statements at two different press conferences. They believed in what they were saying. They were wrong.

In Tampa, Leeman Bennett had just finished his second season as head coach of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers. And 1986 had been a 2-14 clone of 1985, but Bennett believed everyone understood that rebuilding takes time.

"I've got a lot of different ways I can go to make the Buccaneers as good as I can make them in the shortest period of time," Bennett said.

Bennett later discovered he had only one way to go—out the back door—bacause he had run out of time.

Meanwhile, in Tuscaloosa, Ala., University of Alabama President Joab Thomas was dismissing the rumor that Crimson Tide Coach Ray Perkins was going to take the Buccaneer job.

"He (Perkins) said he had not been contacted (by the Bucs) and did not expect to be," Thomas said.

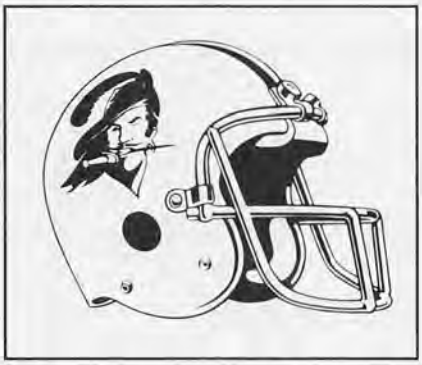
Wrong again.

Even if contact between Perkins and Bucs owner Hugh Culverhouse had not been made then, it was cemented just one day after Culverhouse tearfully fired Bennett in a controversial and emotional press conference. Culverhouse admitted he had originally promised Bennett a minimum of three years to rebuild the Bucs but felt he had to go back on his word for the sake of the team.

And like a suitor on the rebound, Culverhouse flew to Birmingham to embrace Perkins. And Perkins, in turn, had to tearfully tell his Alabama players that he was moving on after all.

The players were stunned, although a sizable portion of Alabama alumni and an even larger slice of Alabama press found it difficult to shed even one collective tear.

In Tampa, reactions were mixed and cautious. A newspaper poll had indicated 93 percent of the remaining Bucs' fans



felt Bennett had to go, but the majority of them were hoping for Steve Spurrier to take control and bring USFL "Bandit-ball" back to their town.

All in all, it was a confusing who-do-you-believe-now type of script better suited for a primetime soap opera than the NFL. But Culverhouse and Perkins shared an ace in the hole that was going to make everything seem brighter around the eroded shores of Tampa Bay.

The ace was (and is) Vinny Testaverde.

For the sixth time in Tampa Bay's 12 years in the league, the Bucs had the No. 1 pick in the draft. Not since they took Lee Roy Selmon with the historic first pick in 1976 had choosing first gone smoothly for the Bucs. And the annual mistakes turned into a national joke in 1986 when the Bucs discovered they had chosen an outfielder instead of a running back in Auburn's Bo Jackson.

Culverhouse needed to sign Testaverde in order to restore dignity to the franchise and fans to Tampa Stadium. But to Culverhouse's credit, he left the decision to Perkins.

It wasn't that easy. Testaverde was the one offensive franchise-maker in the draft, but Alabama linebacker Cornelius Bennett was the sole defensive superstar available.

Before the 1986 collegiate season began, Perkins said in LINDY'S S.E.C. FOOTBALL ANNUAL; "If I had to put together a team, college or pro, and had to put four linebackers on the field, Cornelius Bennett would be one of the ones I'd choose."

But after coaching Testaverde in one all-star game and watching him in another, Perkins chose the Heisman-Trophy winner from the University of Miami. And Culverhouse made sure there are no foulups this time by signing Testaverde to a six-year contract worth a reported $8.3 million on April 3rd, 25 days before the draft.

Hope must be eternal because it's blossoming in the Tampa area once again.

Despite negative reports from the media in New York, where Perkins coached the Giants, and from the media in Alabama, the new Bucs' coach has charmed the public and impressed the press in Tampa.

"I feel like I've been traded," said Bucs' offensive tackle Ron Heller. "We've got a new coaching staff and

will be training at a new site (the University of Tampa), so it feels like I'm with a new franchise.

"As for coach Perkins," Heller added, "he's obviously going to do it his way. We'll joke when he wants to joke and work when he wants to work—and he'll want to work 90 percent of the time."

The Bucs need a lot of work. What Perkins knows and the public wants to forget is that one quarterback, no matter how good, is not good enough to turn the Bucs into a winner by himself. They were 27th in total offense and a dead-last 28th in defense last season, so the problems are everywhere.

In fact, Perkins says the team is "fixed" at just one position — quarterback. And even that situation is a problem of sorts.

At present the Bucs are carrying Testaverde, Steve Young and Steve DeBerg. That's more than $2 million a year in quarterbacks.

Young was on the trading block. And while San Franciso, Green Bay and St. Louis were nibbling, nobody had been willing at that time to go for the bait.

Testaverde, obviously, will be the Bucs' starter before the midway point this season. How soon he starts will depend on his progress at reading NFL defenses. While he's learning, DeBerg will play the role of stand-in as he has done previously for Joe Montana, John Elway and Young.

After that, nothing is certain.

Perkins feels only three things are wrong with the encumbent Bucs: (1) They are too small; (2) They are too weak; (3) They are too slow.

He says he and his staff can do something about size and strength, but have no tricks to make a player run faster. The draft will have to be the answer for that.

It tells you something about the Bucs' depth when Perkins admits that he hopes at least 14 rookies make the team and will consider it a personal failure if less than 10 new faces are on the squad in September. He also is counting on at least four new starters on opening day. Reviewing the current Bucs is a risky

Ray Perkins will try to win at Tampa Bay

business, because many of them may not be current for long.

On offense we know about the quarterbacks—and we know that James Wilder is one of the hardest working and most overworked running backs in the league (704 yards rushing, 326 more receiving but just 3 TDs). On a good team he would be a superstar; as a Buc, he's a marked man.

The Bucs almost got lucky last year. Free agent Nathan Wonsley had the speed and moves to be a game-breaking back (339 yards, 4.6 average). He appeared on his way to the NFL's offensive rookie of the year when he was injured while making a tackle on a game-opening kickoff which left him partially paralyzed.

Wonsley is recovering and the Bucs have a strong hope he will play again—but probably not until 1988. Without him, Wilder has no help unless some was found in the draft.

The corps of wide receivers is about the same, slow and slim. Gerald Carter (42 catches) is a decent veteran with little help. David Williams, Phil Freeman, Leonard Harris and Willie Gillespie are a disappointing quartet of backups. The Bucs need speed and skill at this position; another area where a starting position is waiting for someone to take.

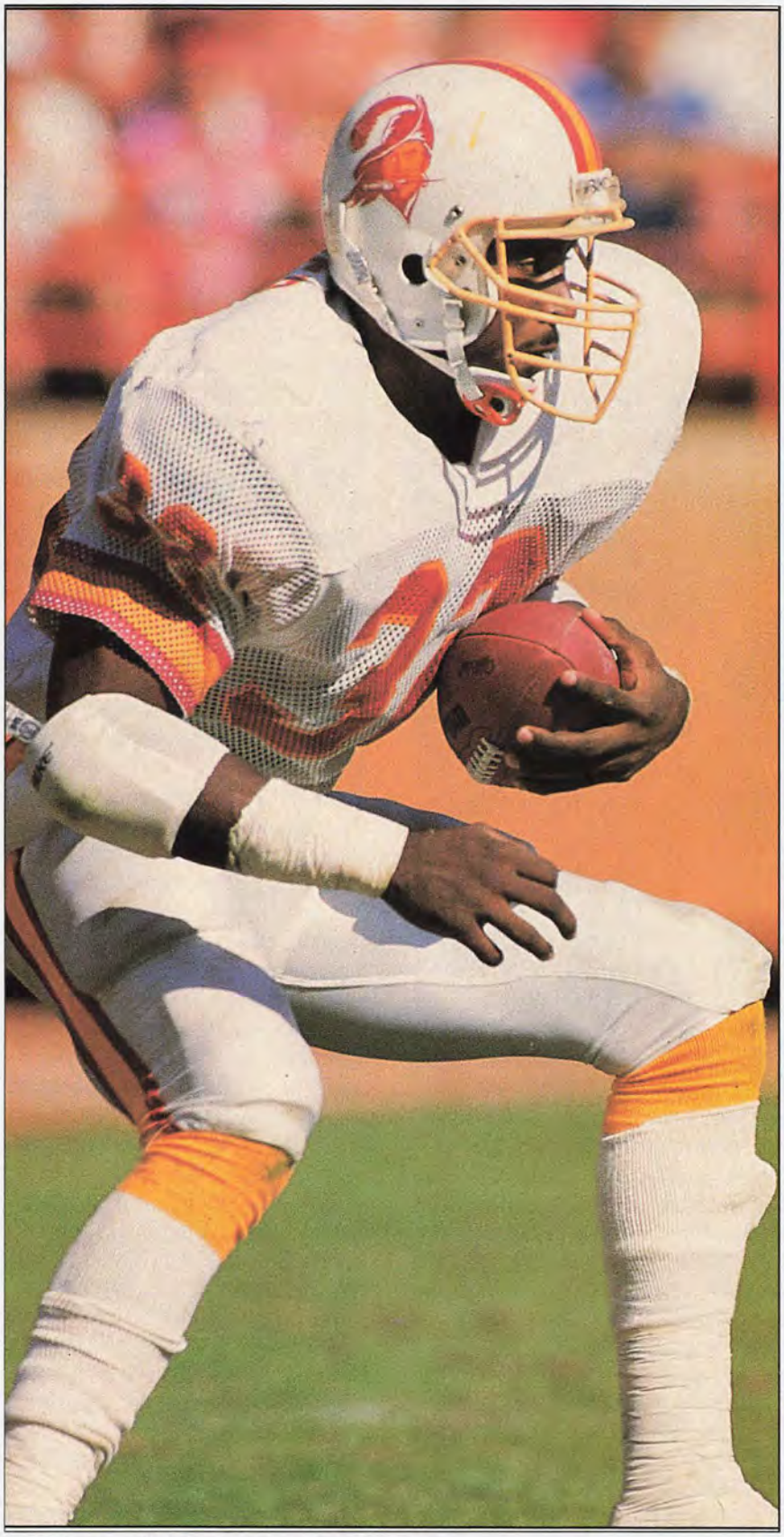
The Bucs' tight ends may be better than most think. Of course, the Bucs are 0-0, so it's easy for everyone to get along right now, especially if Jerry Bell returns from what is beginning to appear like his annual serious leg injury. This time is was a broken ankle, but Bell appears to be fine. Big Calvin Magee (45 catches, 5 TDs) led the club as a receiver and K.D. Dunn could be more than an adequate third tight end.

The Bucs' offensive line always is a mystery and this season will not be different. The Bucs honored a promise made to Sean Farrell and traded him to New England, so he could pursue his career as desired. The only problem is that right guard Farrell was their most talented linemen.

Heller is solid (290 pounds this year) at right tackle. That's all we know for sure. The Bucs would like sophomore J.D. Maarleveld (more than 300 pounds) to take the left tackle role for his own. George Yarno, Rick Mallory and former All-Pro (and current union president) Marvin Powell are the encumbent guards. Center Randy Grimes could lose the starting role to Dan Turk, acquired in the spring from Pittsburgh.

Do not look for Perkins to use any high draft choices to bolster the offensive line. He believes offensive linemen take too long to develop for a team that needs as much immediate help as the Bucs.

But defensive linemen are something else. Last year's starters were ends Ron



Running back James Wilder has been record-setter at Tampa Bay

Holmes and John Cannon with veteran nose tackle David Logan between them. Depending on who you ask, any one or all three must be replaced. The fact is that the Bucs were last in the league in sacks with 19, last in the league against the rush and 24th against the pass.

Part of the problem was that the Bucs either were unwilling or incapable of blitzing. Bennett's unsatisfactory explanation was that the blitzing was a "quick death," so the Bucs chose "a slow death" instead.

Dead is dead.

Traditionally, the Bucs have used linebackers until they have nothing left. That could be the case this year with inside linebacker Scot Brantley, who is coming off another knee operation to go along with his matching shoulder operations. Ervin Randle has yet to prove he can be Brantley's replacement.

Jeff Davis is the team captain and the other inside linebacker. With Keith Browner traded to San Francisco, Chris Washington and sophomores Jackie Walker and Kevin Murphy are available on the outside.

Rookie Rod Jones, a late first-round pick in 1986, may be the only starter from last year who holds his job in the secondary. Jones drew some heavy criticism but appears to have the tools to get the job done. Other than Jones, the rest of the secondary is anybodies guess.

A subtle but reliable indicator of team strength is its special teams. The Bucs were the worst in the league on coverage and returns of both kickoffs and punts. The punter, Frank Garcia, has been no more than barely adequate for two seasons.

A bright spot in the wilderness is placekicker Donald Igwebuike. Solid on kickoffs and dependable on field goals inside 50 yards (17 of 24 overall), he may have deserved the team's MVP award last year.

Somewhat ironically, however, the MVP title was given to Young by the press. What does it tell you about a team when a quarterback can be the MVP one season and trade bait the next?□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Igwebuike**, Donald	K	5-9	185	3	Clemson
4	**Gonzalez**, Leon	WR	5-11	165	2	Bethune Cookman
5	**Garcia**, Frank	P	6-0	210	5	Arizona
6	**Barnhardt**, Tommy	P	6-3	205	1	North Carolina
7	**Nelson**, Jeff	WR	5-9	170	1	Texas A&M
9	**Carter**, Stephen	WR	5-10	170	1	Albany State
10	**Walls**, Herkie	WR	5-8	160	4	Texas
17	**De Berg**, Steve	QB	6-3	205	11	San Jose State
19	**Scott**, Ed	WR	6-0	190	1	Idaho State
20	**Turner**, Craig	RB	5-11	220	1	Alabama
21	**McKeever**, Vito	DB	6-0	180	2	Florida
22	**Jones**, Roderick	CB	6-0	170	1	Southern Methodist
23	**Castille**, Jeremiah	CB	5-10	175	5	Alabama
24	**Hunt**, Gary	DB	5-11	180	1	Memphis State
25	**Howard**, Bobby	RB	6-0	210	2	Indiana
26	**Easmon**, Ricky	CB	6-0	168	3	Florida
27	**Walker**, Quentin	RB	6-0	205	2	Virginia
31	**Curry**, Craig	FS	6-0	190	4	Texas
32	**Wilder**, James	RB	6-3	225	7	Missouri
34	**Boatner**, Mack	RB	6-0	220	2	S.E. Louisiana
35	**Franklin**, Pat	RB	6-1	230	2	S.W. Texas State
36	**Futrell**, Bobby	CB	5-11	190	2	Elizabeth City State
37	**Walker**, Kevin	DB	5-11	180	2	E. Carolina
38	**Bligen**, Dennis	RB	5-11	215	4	St. John's
41	**Swoope**, Craig	SS	6-1	200	1	Illinois
44	**Anderson**, Dwayne	DB	6-0	205	1	Southern Methodist
46	**Wonsley**, Nathan	RB	5-10	189	1	Mississippi
51	**Washington**, Chris	OLB	6-4	230	4	Iowa State
52	**Brantley**, Scott	ILB	6-1	231	8	Florida
54	**Randle**, Ervin	ILB	6-1	250	3	Baylor
55	**McCallister**, Fred	LB	6-1	250	1	Florida
56	**Walker**, Jackie	OLB	6-5	250	1	Jackson State
58	**Davis**, Jeff	ILB	6-0	230	6	Clemson
59	**Murphy**, Kevin	OLB	6-2	230	1	Oklahoma
60	**Grimes**, Randy	C	6-4	270	5	Arizona
61	**Fonoti**, David	OT	6-4	280	1	Arizona State
64	**Robinson**, Greg	OT	6-5	285	2	Sacramento State
66	**Yarno**, George	G	6-2	265	8	Washington State
67	**Morgan**, Karl	NT	6-1	255	4	UCLA
68	**Mallory**, Rick	G	6-2	260	3	Washington
71	**Nelson**, Bob	DE-NT	6-3	265	2	Miami
72	**Taylor**, Bob	T	6-6	290	2	Northwestern
73	**Heller**, Ron	T	6-6	290	4	Penn State
74	**Powell**, Marvin	T	6-5	264	11	Southern California
75	**Kellin**, Kevin	DE	6-6	265	2	Minnesota
76	**Logan**, David	NT	6-2	250	9	Pittsburgh
77	**Maarleveld**, J.D.	T	6-6	300	1	Maryland
78	**Cannon**, John	DE	6-5	265	6	William & Mary
80	**Williams**, David	WR	6-4	194	1	Illinois
81	**Freeman**, Phil	WR	5-11	185	3	Arizona
82	**Bell**, Jerry	TE	6-5	230	5	Arizona State
83	**Gillespie**, Willie	WR	5-9	170	2	Tennessee-Chat.
84	**Harris**, Leonard	WR	5-8	155	2	Texas Tech
85	**Dunn**, K.D.	TE	6-3	235	3	Clemson
86	**Magee**, Calvin	TE	6-3	239	3	Southern U.
87	**Carter**, Gerald	WR	6-1	190	8	Texas A&M
88	**Spek**, Jeff	TE	6-3	240	1	San Diego State
89	**Heflin**, Vince	WR	6-0	185	6	Central State
90	**Holmes**, Ron	DE	6-4	255	3	Washington
91	**Jacobs**, Cam	LB	6-2	230	1	Kentucky
92	**Goode**, Conrad	OL	6-6	285	3	Missouri
93	**Perrino**, Michael	OT	6-5	285	1	Notre Dame
94	**Pumphrey**, Donald	G	6-4	275	1	Valdosta State
95	**Faulkner**, Chris	TE	6-4	250	3	Florida
96	**Huddleston**, James	OL	6-4	280	1	Virginia
98	**Keys**, Tyrone	DE	6-7	267	5	Mississippi State

BUCCANEERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	BUCCANEERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	273	362
Rushing	100	162
Passing	142	177
Penalty	31	23
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	59/193 30.6%	90/193 46.7%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	8/19 42.1%	6/10 60%
TOTAL NET YARDS	4361	6333
Avg. Per Game	272.6	395.8
Total Plays	970	1061
Avg. Per Play	4.5	6.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	1863	2648
Avg. Per Game	116.4	165.5
Total Rushes	455	558
NET YARDS PASSING	2498	3685
Avg. Per Game	156.1	230.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	56/394	19/153
Gross Yards	2892	3838
Attempts/Completions	459/245	484/289
Pct. of Completions	53.4	59.7
Had Intercepted	25	13
PUNTS/AVERAGE	78/40.2	59/41.3
NET PUNTING AVG.	32.8	37.4
PENALTIES/YARDS	83/661	115/931
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	36/17	39/19
TOUCHDOWNS	27	59
Rushing	12	31
Passing	13	23
Returns	2	5

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
BUCCANEERS	39	74	41	85	0	239
Opp. Total	111	105	103	145	9	473

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Igwebuike	0-0	5-5	7-8	3-6	2-5	17-24

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Wilder	190	704	3.7	45t	2
Young	74	425	5.7	31	5
Wonsley	73	339	4.6	59t	3

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Magee	45	564	12.5	45	5
Wilder	43	326	7.6	25	1
Carter	42	640	15.2	46	2
Springs	24	187	7.8	46	0
Giles	18	178	9.9	20	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McKeever	3	12	4.0	10	0
Brantley	2	65	32.5	57	0
Curry	2	0	0.0	0	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Garcia	77	3089	40.1	8	19	60	0
Springs	1	43	43.0	0	0	43	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Futrell	14	5	67	4.8	12	0
Walker	9	—	27	3.0	10	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Freeman	31	582	18.8	33	0
Wonsley	10	208	20.8	29	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Young	363	195	2382	53.7	6.29	8	2.2	13	3.6	46	47/326	65.5
DeBerg	96	50	610	52.1	6.35	5	5.2	12	12.5	45	9/68	49.7

BUCCANEERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Vinny **TESTAVERDE** *QB*	6-5, 218	**Miami**	Consensus All-American also winning the Heisman Trophy $ Walter Camp Award...led the country in pass. eff. with a rating of 165.8 & 4th in nation in total offense with 2454 yds. an avg. of 254.4 yds. per game.
2A	Ricky **REYNOLDS** *CB*	6-0, 181	**Washington St.**	'86 All-PAC 10 Hon.Men...77 tackles (52 solos), 12 pass deflections, 3 blked kicks, 2 fmb. cau., 1 fmb. rec., 1 int.
2B	Winston **MOSS** *OLB*	6-3, 240	**Miami**	'86...87 tackles (60 solos)...2 fmb. cau. & 3 fmb. rec...selected to play in Japan Bowl.
2C	Don **SMITH** *QB-HB*	6-0, 195	**Mississippi St.**	'86 All SEC, led conference in total offense with 2349 yds....comp. 120 of 244 passes (49.2%) for 1609 yds. & 10 TD's...MVP honors for South in Senior Bowl as a halfback.
3	Mark **CARRIER** *WR*	6-0, 181	**Nicholls St.**	'86 All-Gulf Star & All-American...set school season records with 63 receptions for 1211 yds. & 17 TD's.
4A	Don **GRAHAM** *ILB-DE*	6-2, 242	**Penn St.**	'86 All-East...40 tackles (24 solos), 9 sacks & 14 tackles for 78 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau. & 3 pass deflections.
4B	Ron **HALL** *TE*	6-4, 235	**Hawaii**	'86 second team All-WAC...led the team with 42 recpts. for 508 yds. (12.1 avg.) & 2 TD's.
4C	Bruce **HILL** *WR*	6-0, 170	**Arizona St.**	'86 All-PAC 10 Hon. Men., ninth in league in receiving ydg. with 532 yds. on 28 catches (19.0 avg.) & 5 TD's.
5A	Henry **ROLLING** *LB*	6-3, 220	**Nevado-Reno**	'86 first team All American Div 1-AA...16 sacks...bench presses 425.
5B	Tony **MAYES** *DB*	6-1, 187	**Kentucky**	'86...4 int's...52 tackles, 1 for 7 yds. in losses.
6	Steve **BARTALO** *FB-HB*	5-9, 195	**Colorado St.**	Set school career records for rushing ydg. (4813), rushing attps. (1215), $ rushing TD's (46)...'86 First team All-WAC.
7A	Curt **JARVIS** *NG*	6-0, 266	**Alabama**	'86 second team All-SEC...58 tackles (48 solos), 2 sacks & 12 tackles for 28 yds. in losses.
7B	Harry **SWAYNE** *DL*	6-5, 250	**Rutgers**	'86...51 tackles (21 solos), 5 sacks, 3 fmb. rec.
8	Stan **MATAELE** *DT*	6-1, 279	**Arizona**	'86 second team All-PAC 10...51 tackles (24 solos)...10.5 sacks, 1 fmb. cau.
9A	Joe **ARMENTROUT** *FB*	6-1, 210	**Wisconsin**	'86 voted team's Offensive Player of the Year...team captain gained 266 yds. on 64 carries (4.1 avg.)...23 recpts. for 205 yards .
9B	Greg **DAVIS** *P-PK*	5-11, 190	**The Citadel**	53 yd. fg; longest...'86 second team All-Southern Conference... led nation with 44.6 yd. punting average on 61 kicks for 2723 yds...8 of 15 fg's & 12 of 16 extra points.
10	Mike **SIMMONDS** *OG-T*	6-4, 275	**Indiana St.**	Can bench press over 520 lbs...'86 first team All-Gateway Conf...first team Division 1-AA honors...Closed career as a starter in 46 consecutive contests.
11	Reggie **TAYLOR** *TB*	5-7, 170	**Cincinnati**	'86 All-American Hon. Men....gained 1325 yds. on 256 carries (5.3 avg.) & 11 TD's for a school season record.
12A	Scott **COOPER** *DT*	6-5, 274	**Kearney St.**	'86...63 tackles (44 solos), 1 pass deflection.
12B	Mike **SHULA** *QB*	6-2, 198	**Alabama**	'86 All-SEC honors...comp. 112 of 209 passes for 1298 yds. with 11 TD's & 15 int's...'85 broke school records for passing percentage (60.3) & most TD's passes in a season.

GREEN BAY PACKERS

BETTER TIMES ARE AHEAD IN '87

BY BOB MCGINN

George Young, the erudite general manager of the Super Bowl champion New York Giants and student of history, likes to draw a parallel between the Green Bay Packers and post-Napoleonic France.

Under Vince Lombardi, the Packers became the scourge of the National Football League. Under Napoleon Bonaparte, the French tried to conquer Europe, Russia, and North Africa.

"I'm not so sure the French ever got over Napoleon," says Young. "Sometimes organizations are built upon having greatness in a person. I sometimes think of the Packers facing the same situation as France had."

How could anyone match Lombardi, the coach who transformed the ragamuffin Packers of the late 1950s into the juggernaut of the 1960s? The Packers captured five NFL championships from 1961-67, but haven't come close to another since he left.

At least Lombardi's successors, Phil Bengtson, Dan Devine, Bart Starr, and Forrest Gregg, generally put competitive teams on the field. But then came 1986, the darkest chapter in the Packers' post-Lombardi era.

The Packers got off to the worst start in their 68-year history, losing six games in a row. They rebounded to win four of their last 10 games, but their final record of 4-12 and winning percentage of .250 represented a low point since the 1958 squad ended 1-10-1.

That was the year before Lombardi arrived in Green Bay.

Gregg, who enters the fourth season of an original five-year contract, should know what it takes to win. The Hall of Fame tackle is the only man to play and coach in the Super Bowl.

"I think you will see a different football team from the beginning," says Gregg, called by Lombardi the finest player he ever coached. "We know where we're going. We know what will happen with this football team."

The Packers had been an 8-8 team in 1981, 1983, 1984, and 1985. It was a club built from the fruitful drafts of 1977 and 1978, which produced players like wide receiver James Lofton, linebackers John Anderson and Mike Douglass, defensive ends Ezra Johnson and Mike Butler, and tackle Greg Koch. Quarterback Lynn Dickey came from Houston via trade before the '76 season. Tight end Paul Coffman was a free-agent find in 1978.

This nucleus of players carried the Packers into the playoffs in strike-shortened 1982, and made Green Bay a contender in the balanced NFC Central for almost a decade.

Gregg inherited a somewhat aging team from Starr in 1984 and missed the playoffs by one game. Gregg stood pat again in 1985 and once more finished 8-8, missing the playoffs by two games. Then, with the backing of team president Robert Parins, Gregg gutted the veteran element before the 1986 season started.

In retrospect, Gregg wishes he had started from scratch the day he arrived. But, like other close observers of the team, Gregg believed even minimal defensive improvement, coupled with the explosive offense already in place would put the Packers over the hump and into the playoffs.

The mass housecleaning, which reached its peak when Dickey and Coffman were waived Sept. 1, turned the Packers into a young team without direction. On opening day, a festive Lambeau Field crowd booed their team off the field in a 31-3 loss to lowly Houston.

If there was a turning point it came the seventh week at Cleveland. Gregg shuffled his lineup, inserting outside linebacker Tim Harris, free safety Ken Stills and strong safety Tiger Greene as starters for the first time. Despite the self-doubts lingering throughout the locker room, the Packers gave an inspired performance and defeated the Browns 17-14.

That would be the Packers only victory over a quality opponent in 1986, but it could be said the Packers showed improvement the second half of the season. And it is that improvement, plus the team's relative youth, that has convinced Gregg better times are ahead in 1987.

''I am totally convinced that what I did was right,'' says Gregg. ''Sometimes you have to get worse before you can get better. We know that we paid a dear price to be able to develop football players with an attitude we think it takes to win.

''This is a football team that when training camp starts, they will have some idea what their destiny is. You'll see a lot of people who will step in and start playing with the confidence they lacked last year.

''Regardless of what I say, it's not really going to make any difference. I can't carve it in stone as to what's going to happen. I can only tell you what I believe.''

If the history of one position can explain the decline of the Packers, and perhaps their immediate future, then quarterback is the position.

Starr's last great season was 20 years ago. In chronological order, the Packers tried Scott Hunter, Jerry Tagge, John Hadl, David Whitehurst, Rich Campbell and Dickey, among others, to rekindle the fire. Not one of them except Dickey had a Packers season in which they ranked among the top 20 in the NFL's rating system, and Dickey's lack of mobility was a contributing factor why the Packers weren't big winners in his years at the helm.

The torch was passed last season to Randy Wright, a sixth-round draft choice in 1984 from the University of Wisconsin. And if you're looking for a key player in Green Bay in 1987, it would have to be Wright.

Predictably, Wright struggled early last year. He tossed five interceptions the second week at New Orleans and fainted on the field the fourth week at Minnesota. It was painfully obvious that Wright hadn't played much in his first two seasons.

By mid-season, the Packers at least saw some hope in Wright. By the end of the season, Gregg, his coaches and some of his players were of the opinion that Wright had the right stuff to become a solid starting quarterback.

Wright made 16 starts, completing 53.5 percent of 492 passes for 3,247 yards, the third highest total in the NFC. His interception total of 23 trailed only the 26 thrown by Houston's Warren Moon, but Wright cut back on his interceptions as he became more adept looking off his primary receiver.

''He had tremendous setbacks early,'' Gregg says. ''The way he performed and the way he improved, it's given me confidence. Randy might have been the most improved player on our team.''

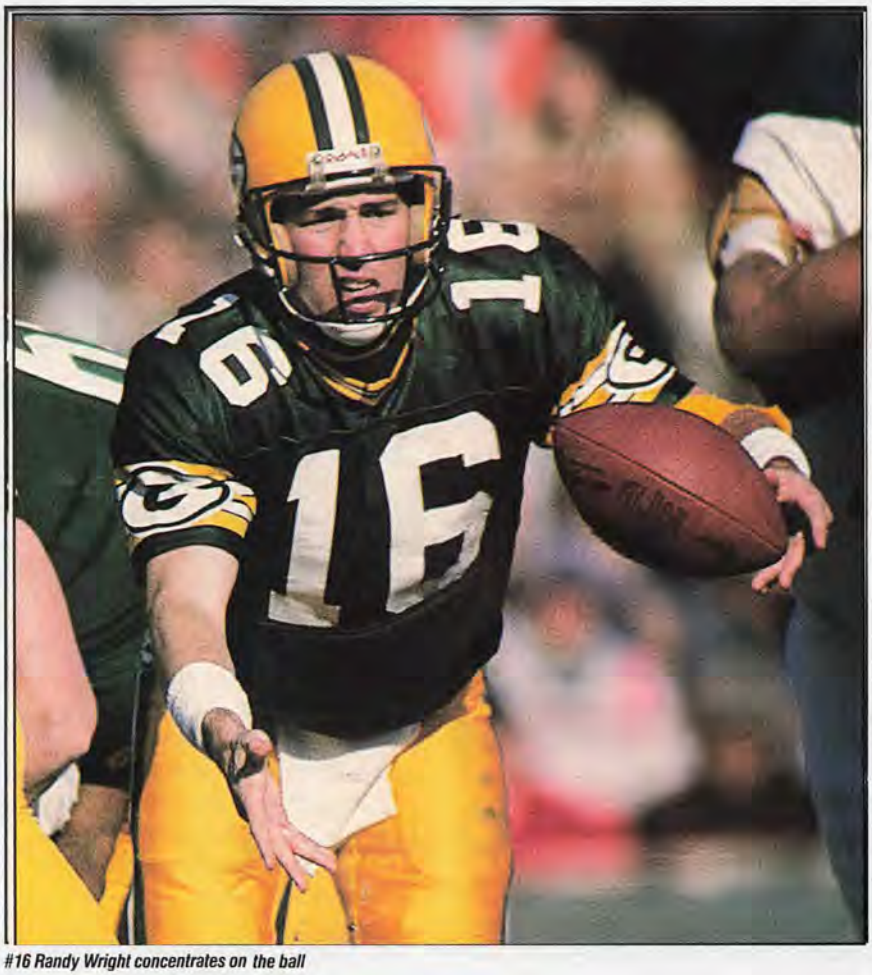
The Packers are hopeful that Robbie Bosco will be ready following shoulder surgery last October. They drafted Bosco in the third round last year, unaware that his passing shoulder remained damaged from early in his senior year at Brigham Young.

Chuck Fusina, a star in the United States Football League, provides veteran backup help.

The offense has undergone almost a complete overhaul since 1985. The Packers had been a downfield passing team from 1982-85 with Bob Schnelker as offensive coordinator, but Gregg fired Schnelker and assumed control of the offense last year.

Gregg's objective was two-pronged: combine a possession-style passing attack and place greater emphasis on the running game. Although the passing game began to take shape late in the year, the running attack was a disaster most of the season.

In fact, the Packers wound up running the ball only 41.3 percent of the time, their lowest percentage since the 1951 team ran just 39.6 percent. Being forced to pass in comeback situations, the fact that the offensive line blocked better for the pass than the run, and the failure of a running back to emerge all contributed to the offensive imbalance.



#16 Randy Wright concentrates on the ball

In order to become a running team, Gregg needs more than 519 yards from halfback Kenneth Davis, a No. 2 pick last year. Davis showed only flashes of the game-breaking style he displayed at Texas Christian. The hope is that Davis, who sat out his senior year in an illegal cash scandal, will pick up the passing game more readily in his second season.

Former USFL jack-of-all-trades Paul Ott Carruth was a pleasant surprise as a blocking fullback. Veterans Gerry Ellis and Jessie Clark are better runners, but Gregg is high on Carruth. "I know when I wake up every Sunday morning, I'm going to get the best he has," says Gregg.

Only three players on offense that started in 1985 enter training camp with their same jobs. Two of them, center Mark Cannon and right guard Ron Hallstrom, anchor the offensive line with Ken Ruettgers, a potential honors candidate at left tackle.

A pair of free agents, left guard Tom Neville and right tackle Alan Veingrad, stepped in as season-long starters last year. Neville will face the challenges of Rich Moran and Keith Uecker, both of whom return from injured reserve.

The Packers ranked ninth in the league in percentage of sacks allowed, but dropped almost a full yard (4.7 to 3.8) in average gain per rush. Gregg's preference for massive blockers has paid off in pass protection, but the bulk kick hasn't helped the running game.

"We are in better shape on the offensive line than since I've been here," says Gregg. "The fact we cut down on our sacks really says something for those people."

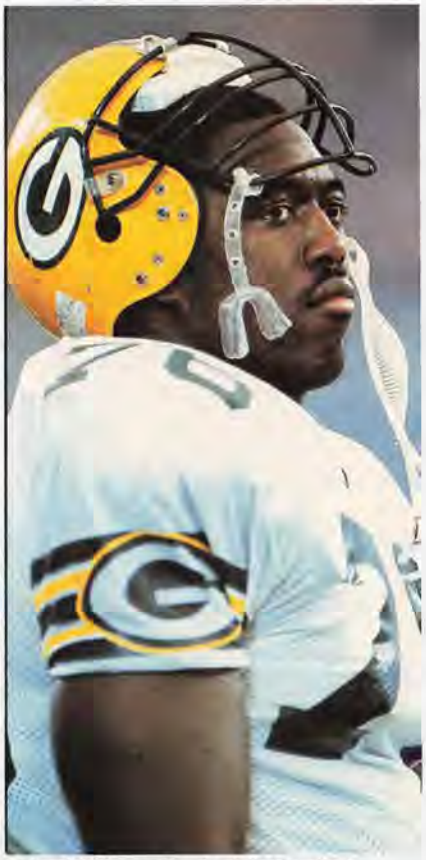
Phillip Epps caught 49 passes as the flanker and is one of the fastest wide receivers in the game. Walter Stanley averaged a team-high 20.7 on 35 receptions. Veteran Eddie Lee Ivery made a remarkable conversion from running back to wide receiver.

Although the Packers wish they had a more physical receiver, the Epps-Stanley combination provides a double-barreled, game-breaking threat. Stanley is something special after the catch and as a punt returner.

The Packers miss Coffman's production at tight end. Dan Ross, Ed West and Mark Lewis are the holdovers there.

Under Defensive Coordinator Dick Modzelewski, the Packers have risen from 28th in 1983 to 12th the past two years. Modzelewski has favored a straight-up 3-4 alignment, and the Packers generally have played aggressive football under his leadership.

However respectable the Packers' ranking in average yield per game, there



Packers' DE Alphonso Carreker looks determined

are other key statistics that suggest the defense is a problem area. Only Tampa Bay allowed more points, and only the New York Jets allowed more touchdown passes. Moreover, Green Bay tied for 24th in sacks with 28, down from a 12th place finish and 48 sacks in 1985.

"The one thing we've been really pretty bad at is upfield pressure," Modzelewski says. "We need some down people who can get penetration in front of the passer's face."

Nose tackle Charles Martin probably was the most effective defensive lineman the Packers had in 1986. Left end Alphonso Carreker, the 12th player taken in the '84 draft, hasn't performed to expectations. There's a void at right end.

Although Harris, a fourth-round pick, got a late start, his 7 1/2 sacks doubled the total of any other Packer. Harris did most of his damage as an end in a 4-3 defense, which Modzelewski installed to blend with the 3-4 late in the year.

"We've got a unique thing with Harris," says Modzelewski. "We can use him as a linebacker in the 3-4 or put him down on either side in the 4-3. We're going to mix it up quite a bit this year."

Brian Noble, a 6′ 3″, 248 pounder, is a deluxe run stuffer inside. Noble plays the weak side in the 3-4 and the middle in the 4-3. Inside linebacker Randy Scott has been a regular for almost five years, and Anderson is expected back on the outside after ankle surgery.

The loss of cornerback Tim Lewis with a career-ending spinal injury early last season cost the Packers one of their two or three best players.

Left corner Mark Lee had a Pro Bowl caliber season with nine interceptions. Moss Cade, acquired from San Diego in 1985 for a No. 1 draft choice, struggled at right corner after showing an unexpected knack as a strong safety.

Stills and Greene, both of whom have been waived in their careers, are kamikaze-style hitters at safety. Mark Murphy, the starting strong safety from 1983-85, should push Greene after missing all '86 with a foot injury.

Elbert Watts, claimed on procedural waivers from the Los Angeles Rams at midyear, has the raw athletic ability to win a job somewhere in the secondary.

The first order of business in special teams is to protect the punter. The Packers suffered five blocked punts, an unofficial all-time league record. Kicker Al Del Greco and punter Don Bracken are no better than an average combination.□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Fusina**, Chuck	QB	6-1	195	5	Penn State
10	**Del Greco**, Al	K	5-10	195	4	Auburn
11	**Bosco**, Robbie	QB	6-2	198	1	BYU
13	**Renner**, Bill	P	6-0	198	2	Virginia Tech
16	**Wright**, Randy	QB	6-2	203	4	Wisconsin
17	**Bracken**, Don	P	6-0	208	3	Michigan
18	**Shield**, Joe	QB	6-1	185	2	Trinity College
20	**Berry**, Ed	CB	5-10	183	1	Utah State
22	**Lee**, Mark	CB	5-11	186	8	Washington
23	**Greene**, George	DB	6-0	194	3	Western Carolina
24	**Cade**, Mossy	CB	6-1	195	3	Texas
28	**Watts**, Elbert	CB	6-1	243	4	Southern California
29	**Stills**, Ken	FS	5-10	180	3	Wisconsin
30	**Carruth**, Paul	FB	6-1	220	2	Alabama
31	**Ellis**, Gerry	FB	5-11	235	8	Missouri
32	**Simmons**, John	CB-WR	5-11	192	7	SMU
33	**Clark**, Jessie	FB	6-0	233	5	Arkansas
36	**Davis**, Kenneth	RB	5-10	209	1	Texas Christian
37	**Murphy**, Mark	SS	6-2	201	6	West Liberty
38	**Sullivan**, John	SS	6-1	196	2	California
39	**Parker**, Freddie	RB	5-10	215	1	Mississippi Valley
42	**Ellerson**, Gary	RB	5-11	220	3	Wisconsin
49	**Greenwood**, David	SS	6-3	210	3	Wisconsin
52	**Weddington**, Mike	LB	6-4	245	2	Oklahoma
53	**Leopold**, Bobby	LB	6-1	224	6	Notre Dame
55	**Scott**, Randy	ILB	6-1	222	7	Alabama
56	**Dent**, Burnell	ILB	6-1	235	1	Tulane
57	**Moran**, Rich	C-G	6-3	270	3	San Diego State
58	**Cannon**, Mark	C	6-3	260	4	Texas-Arlington
59	**Anderson**, John	OLB	6-3	229	10	Michigan
61	**Boyarsky**, Jerry	NT	6-3	290	7	Pitt
65	**Hallstrom**, Ron	G	6-6	283	6	Iowa
67	**Swanke**, Karl	T-C	6-6	262	8	Boston College
69	**Cherry**, Bill	C-G	6-4	275	2	Middle Tenn. State
70	**Uecker**, Keith	G-T	6-5	277	2	Auburn
72	**Neville**, Tom	G-T	6-5	306	2	Fresno State
73	**Veingrad**, Alan	T-G	6-5	277	2	East Texas State
74	**Knight**, Dan	T	6-5	280	1	San Diego St.
75	**Ruettgers**, Ken	T	6-5	280	3	Southern California
76	**Carreker**, Alphonso	DE	6-6	271	4	Florida State
77	**Feasel**, Greg	T	6-7	301	2	Abilene Christian
79	**Humphrey**, Donnie	NT	6-3	295	4	Auburn
81	**Ross**, Dan	TE	6-4	238	8	Northeastern
82	**Moffitt**, Mike	TE	6-4	211	2	Fresno State
84	**Franz**, Nolan	WR	6-2	183	1	Tulane
85	**Epps**, Phillip	WR	5-10	165	6	Texas Christian
86	**West**, Ed	TE	6-1	242	4	Auburn
87	**Stanley**, Walter	WR-KR	5-10	181	3	Mesa
89	**Lewis**, Mark	TE	6-2	237	2	Texas A&M
90	**Johnson**, Ezra	DE	6-4	259	11	Morris Brown
91	**Noble**, Brian	ILB	6-4	237	3	Arizona State
92	**Thomas**, Ben	DE-NT	6-4	275	3	Auburn
93	**Brown**, Robert	DE	6-2	267	6	Virginia Tech
94	**Martin**, Charles	NT	6-4	280	4	Livingston, AL
97	**Harris**, Tim	OLB	6-5	235	1	Memphis State
98	**Moore**, Brent	LB	6-5	242	1	Southern California
99	**Dorsey**, John	OLB	6-3	235	4	Connecticut
	Byrd, Sylvester	TE-LB	6-2	198	1	BYU
	Carr, Carl	LB	6-4	232	1	No. Carolina
	Fitzgerald, Patrick	WR	6-3	197	1	Boise St.
	Garrett, Curtis	DL	6-6	270	1	Illinois St.
	Kaplan, Ken	OT	6-4	275	4	New Hampshire
	Sowell, Robert	DB	5-10	185	4	Howard Univ.

PACKERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	PACKERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	286	313
Rushing	96	135
Passing	172	151
Penalty	18	27
3rd Down: Made/Att.	79/222	94/217
4th Down: Made/Att.	13/25	7/14
TOTAL NET YARDS	5061	5015
Avg. Per Game	316.3	313.4
Total Plays	1026	1041
Avg. Per Play	4.9	4.8
NET YARDS RUSHING	1614	2095
Avg. Per Game	100.9	130.9
Total Rushes	424	565
NET YARDS PASSING	3447	2920
Avg. Per Game	215.4	182.5
Tackled/Yards Lost	37/261	28/222
Gross Yards	3708	3142
Attempts/Completions	565/305	448/267
Pct. of Completions	54.0	59.6
Had Intercepted	27	20
PUNTS/AVERAGE	75/37.7	70/39.6
NET PUNTING AVG.	32.2	31.3
PENALTIES/YARDS	128/939	79/657
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	35/18	32/12
TOUCHDOWNS	29	52
Rushing	8	16
Passing	18	31
Returns	3	5

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
PACKERS	57	80	65	52	0	254
Opp. Total	124	106	78	110	0	418

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Del Greco	0-0	8-8	4-6	3-9	2-4	17-27

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Davis	114	519	4.6	50	0
Ellis	84	345	4.1	24	2
Carruth	81	308	3.8	42	2

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lofton	64	840	13.1	36	4
Epps	49	612	12.5	53t	4
Stanley	35	723	20.7	62	2
Ivery	31	385	12.4	42	1
Ellis	24	258	10.8	29	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lee	9	33	3.7	11	0
Caden	4	26	6.5	18	0
Greene	2	0	0.0	0	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Bracken	55	2203	40.1	5	6	63	2
Renner	15	622	41.5	1	2	50	3

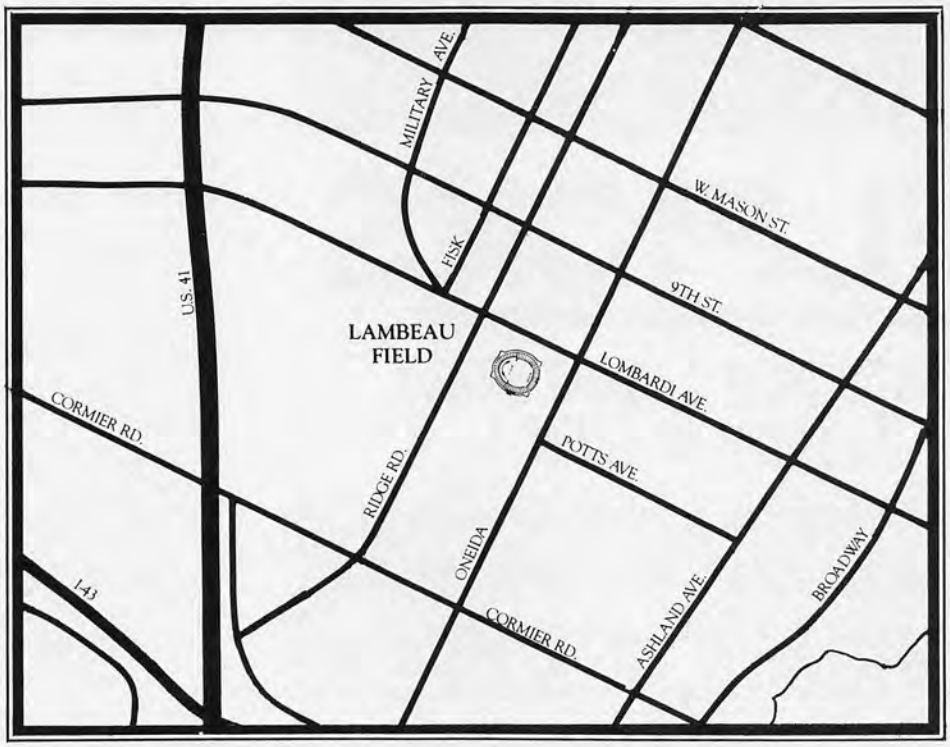
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Stanley	33	7	316	9.6	83t	1

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ellerson	7	154	22.0	57	0
Epps	1	21	21.0	21	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Wright	492	263	3247	53.5	6.60	17	3.5	23	4.7	62	33/243	66.2
Fusina	32	19	178	59.4	5.56	0	0.0	1	3.1	42	1/3	61.7

PACKERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Brent **FULLWOOD** *TB*	5-11, 209	**Auburn**	Unanimous All-American, 1391 yds. rushing on 167 carries (8.3 avg.) & 10 TD's...rushed for over 100-yds. 7 times.
2	Johnny **HOLLAND** *OLB*	6-2, 221	**Texas A&M**	'86 first team All-SWC...All-American...147 tackles (79 solos), 4 sacks & 7 tackles for 26 yds. in losses...1 fmb. rec. & 3 deflected passes.
3A	Dave **CROSTON** *OT*	6-5, 280	**Iowa**	Able to bench press over 500-lbs...numerous first team All-American honors as well as first team All-Big 10...received a 95% blocking grade.
3B	Scott **STEPHEN** *ILB*	6-2, 232	**Arizona St.**	'86 All-Pac 10...73 tackles (47 solos), had 6 sacks & 11 tackles for 79 yds. in losses...3 fmb.cau. & 1 fmb. rec...2 int's.
3C	Frankie **NEAL** *WR*	6-1, 202	**F. Hayes St.**	'86...40 recpts. for 846 yds. (21.2 avg.), 9 TD's.
4	Lorenzo **FREEMAN** *DT*	6-5, 255	**Pittsburgh**	'86 in 9 games, 49 tackles (25 solos), 2 sacks, 2 fmb. rec., & 1 fmb. cau.
6	Willie **MARSHALL** *WR*	6-1, 190	**Temple**	School records for career receiving ydg...'86 led team with 30 recpts. for 514 yds. (17.1 avg.) & a TD.
7A	Tony **LEIKER** *DT*	6-5, 255	**Stanford**	'86 All-Pac-10, 60 tackles (25 solos), 7 sacks, 1 fmb. cau. & 1 fmb. rec.
7B	Bill **SMITH** *P*	6-3, 222	**Mississippi**	'86 All-SEC & All-American for second straight year...44.3 average on 57 punts, for 2522 yds...22 punts for over 50 yds.
8	Jeff **DROST** *DT*	6-5, 286	**Iowa**	'86 first team All-Big 10...finalist for the Lombardi Trophy... 40 tackles (29 solos), 7 sacks & 11 tackles for 67 yds. in losses.
9	Gregg **HARRIS** *OG*	6-5, 250	**Wake Forest**	'86 co-starter in offensive line.
10	Don **MAJKOWSKI** *QB*	6-2, 197	**Virginia**	'86 comp. 104 of 199 passes (52.3%) for 1375 yds. & 7 TD's...comp. 9 of 16 passes for 172 yds. in the Blue-Gray game.
11	Patrick **SCOTT** *WR*	5-10, 170	**Grambling St.**	'86 All-SWAC Hon. Men....led team in receiving with 49 catches for 766 yds. (15.6 avg.) & 6 TD's.
12	Norman **JEFFERSON** *DB*	5-10, 180	**LSU**	'86...27 tackles (17 solos), 2 int's, 4 deflections.



Giants' head coach Bill Parcells accepts Super Bowl Trophy XXI

NFL PICKS

Bears Keep Super Bowl Trophy in NFC

NFC Champions: Chicago Bears
AFC Champions: Seattle Seahawks
Super Bowl Champions: Chicago Bears

Having a NFL champion repeat by winning the Super Bowl trophy back to back is getting to be about as common as Haley's Comet.

It just doesn't happen and Lindy's predicts it won't happen this year either, sorry N.Y. Giants' fans.

Lindy's believes the youngest team to ever win a Super Bowl-the Chicago Bears-have matured and with a healthy Jim McMahon back at quarterback they could be once again tasting champagne come January in San Diego.

This does not mean the Giants, Redskins, Broncos, 49'ers, Browns, Patriots, Jets, Rams and Chiefs, all playoff teams a year ago, are giving up on the '87 season or that the other eighteen teams won't be hoping to play Cinderella come playoff time.

So it appears that Pete Rozelle's NFL parity concept will continue to keep division races close and television ratings high as the '87 season promises just that.

Looking at the divisions from coast-to-coast starting with the dominant National Football Conference, winners of five of the last six Super Bowl championships:

Eastern: Once again the toughest division in all of football and the New York Giants seem to be toughest of the tough and should repeat as division champs. The Washington Redskins should continue their winning ways as quarterback Jay Schroeder continues to improve. Tom Landry needs a healthy Danny White at quarterback and a more effective way of using the impressive talents of Tony Dorsett and Herschel Walker along with a better defensive unit if Dallas is to be a winner again. Philadelphia learned to play ''Buddy Ball'' against the good teams but was very inconsistent against teams of equal or less talent and this must change for the Eagles to be a contender. St. Louis struggled in Gene Stallings' first season at the Cardinal helm but a year of learning the system and some healthy players could really thrust the young Cards back on the winning side.

LINDY'S ALL-PRO TEAM

OFFENSE

WR	Jerry Rice	San Francisco
	Al Toon	N.Y. Jets
TE	Mark Bavaro	N.Y. Giants
OT	Anthony Munoz	Cincinnati
	Jim Covert	Chicago
OG	Bill Fralic	Atlanta
	Dennis Harrah	L.A. Rams
C	Dwight Stephenson	Miami
QB	Dan Marino	Miami
RB	Eric Dickerson	L.A. Rams
	Curt Warner	Seattle

DEFENSE

DE	Leonard Marshall	N.Y. Giants
	Rulon Jones	Denver
T	Reggie White	Philadelphia
NG	Bill Pickel	L.A. Raiders
ILB	Mike Singletary	Chicago
	Karl Mecklenburg	Denver
OLB	Lawrence Taylor	N.Y. Giants
	Wilber Marshall	Chicago
CB	Darrell Green	Washington
	Hanford Dixon	Cleveland
S	Ronnie Lott	San Francisco
	Deron Cherry	Kansas City

SPECIALISTS

PK	Morton Andersen	New Orleans
P	Sean Landeta	N.Y. Giants
KR	Bobby Joe Edmonds	Seattle

Central: The Bears, despite all their off the field interests, will continue to bruise the "Black and Blue" division. Coach Jerry Burns almost got his Minnesota Vikings into the playoffs a year ago but came up just a little short, so the coaches and players know that the playoffs are very reachable in '87. The new cry in Florida is "Tampa Bay can win with Ray" and Lindy's agrees but they won't quite get on the plus side of the ledger this season. Darryl Rogers and his Detroit Lions have got to let Chuck Long take control, if not, an inconsistent offense will continue to sputter and the results will be another dismal season in the Motor City. The saying "The Pack is Back" applies because Green Bay is way back, all the way to the rear; and if the off-the-field problems are not resolved, that's where Forrest Gregg's team is going to stay—way back.

Western: As usual with the wild, wild west, it's the fastest gun that prevails and the new gunslinger in town is Los Angeles Rams' quarterback Jim Everett. Everett almost led the Rams to the Western title a year ago and with Eric Dickerson continuing to lead the NFL in rushing, the Rams have a consistent attack which translates into consistent wins. Not to be outdone by the new kid on the block, veteran Joe Montano miraculously came roaring back from surgery in '86 to successfully lead the 49'ers to the Western crown. This year the roles appear to be reversed. Speaking of reversals, Jim Mora seems to be on the threshold of NFL history by leading the New Orleans Saints to their first winning season since the franchise was formed. Really and truly, '87 just might be the year the "Saints go marching in." The Falcon situation is still one that puzzles. In '86 they were 4-0 and the talk of the NFL, only to finish one game under .500 for the season, costing Dan Henning his job. A job nobody appeared to want until previously fired Marion Campbell agreed to return to the Falcon helm. Campbell has got to piece together this puzzle and quick but it probably won't happen in '87.

The attention now turns to the American Football Conference which has featured awesome offenses over the last few years but has been lacking in quality defensive units. As usual offenses sell tickets but defenses win championships.

Eastern: When you talk of offense there's one name that comes to the front and that's Dan Marino. Marino continues to dazzle NFL defenses with his bullet-like throws to receivers Mark Clayton and Mark Duper. Coach Don Shula couldn't be happy with the Dolphin defense in '86. Look for a shakeup in personnel as well as the Eastern Division—Miami should be moving back to its familiar role atop the standings. Close behind are the New York Jets, who looked like they were on the Super Bowl express in '86 with a 10-1 record, only to drop five straight and have to settle for a wild-card berth. With a healthy defense and a consistent offense, Joe Walton and his Jets might just get the media off their backs in '87. Those predictions could cause Coach Raymond Berry to laugh since the New England Patriots captured

LINDY'S ALL-PRO HONORABLE MENTION

Atlanta	Tony Casillas/Gerald Riggs
Buffalo	Jim Ritcher/Bruce Smith
Chicago	Jay Hilgenberg/Walter Payton/Dan Hampton Steve McMichael/Dave Duerson
Cincinnati	Max Montoya/James Brooks/Tim Krumrie
Cleveland	Cody Risen/Bob Golic/ Frank Minnifield/Gerald McNeil
Dallas	Herschel Walker/Randy White
Denver	Keith Bishop/John Elway/Michael Harden Dennis Smith
Detroit	James Jones/Eddie Murray
Green Bay	Walter Stanley/Mossy Cade
Houston	Jim Romano/Earnest Givins
Indianapolis	Rohn Stark/Chris Hinton/Ray Donaldson
Kansas City	Bill Maas/Art Still/Albert Lewis Lloyd Burriss/Nick Lowery
L.A. Raiders	Todd Christensen/Howie Long/Mike Haynes
L.A. Rams	LeRoy Irvin/Jackie Slater/Jerry Gray/Doug Smith Mel Owens/Mark Jerue/Nolan Cromwell
Miami	Mark Duper/Roy Foster/John Offerdahl/ Reggie Roby
Minnesota	Tommy Kramer/Steve Jordan/Gary Zimmerman Keith Millard/Joey Browner
New England	Stanley Morgan/Tony Franklin/Andre Tippett Ronnie Lippett/Raymond Clayborn/Garin Veris
New Orleans	Rickey Jackson/Rueben Mayes/Dave Waymer Bruce Clark/Tony Elliot/Mel Gray
N.Y. Giants	Joe Morris/Brad Benson/Harry Carson/Bill Ard Chris Godfrey/Phil Simms/Jim Burt/Carl Banks Raul Allegre/Bart Oates
N.Y. Jets	Wesley Walker/Mickey Shuler/Ken O'Brien/ Joe Klecko/Pat Leahy
Philadelphia	Mike Quick
Pittsburgh	Mike Webster/Mike Merriweather/Brian Hinkle
St. Louis	Leonard Smith/Vai Sikahema
San Diego	Lee Williams/Leslie O'Neal/Chip Banks
San Francisco	Michael Carter/Joe Montana
Seattle	Steve Largent/Fredd Young
Tampa Bay	James Wilder/Nathan Wonsley
Washington	Dexter Manley/Gary Clark/Art Monk Joe Jacoby/Jay Schroeder/Neal Olkewicz

the AFC title in '85 and Eastern Conference crown in '86. The Pats should be in the thick of things in '87 but must find the lost running game with Craig James. Ron Meyer took over the Indianapolis Colts after they were 0-13 and guided them to three straight victories which should have made him "Coach of the Year". Lindy's doesn't expect Meyer to be a "Miracle Worker" in '87; but, we do expect the Colts to be respectable with their good young defense. Buffalo has claimed three straight losing seasons and from all indications '87 will make it four. There's not much else you can say except Jim Kelly is a great quarterback playing on a not-so-great team.

Central: Traditionally one of the strangest divisions in football, so Lindy's is prepared to make a strange prediction —Pittsburgh. Yes, the 6-10 Steelers of '86 improved enough toward the end of the season that they once again will be atop the Central Division-a place Coach Chuck Noll had become accustomed to seeing his team perched. '86 almost had a fairy tale ending for Coach Marty Schottenheimer's Cleveland Browns but midnight struck in the form of John Elway and being runner up in the AFC was the story's end. This season should be interesting as the Browns try to rally from a year of remembering what almost was to challenging the Steelers for division supremacy. Cincinnati finished with a 10-6 record but wasn't invited to the NFL's playoff party and unless Sam Wyche can adopt a defense, '87 probably won't bring much joy to Riverfront Stadium either. The Houston Oilers had better find the answer to an anemic offense if '87 is going to produce more than the five victories as was the case with the '86 team. Quarterback Warren Moon and Mike Rozier have to stay healthy and produce for the Oilers to be near the break-even point in '87.

Western: Considered to be the counterpart of the NFC East as far as being the toughest division in football, especially if the win-loss records are considered. At the end of the '86 season, one of the strongest teams was in Seattle as Chuck Knox's Seahawks won five consecutive games in impressive fashion. It looks like they will pick up right where they left off and edge out Super Bowl participant Denver. This is not to say the Bronco's intend to rest on their laurels as Coach Dan Reeves will not ever be accused of anything close to resting. The Bronco future is great with a maturing Elway but a complementing ground game must be found to give the offense a balanced attack. A "Commitment to Excellence" has been the theme of Al Davis' Raiders, but '86 was a far cry from excellence. Expect Coach Tom Flores to shake up the '87 lineup and watch the Raiders close in on a playoff berth. Kansas City was blessed with a great secondary, great special teams and a playoff spot in '86 but even that couldn't keep the coach from being axed. To repeat last year's performance may not be possible in the AFC West. Bringing up the rear are San Diego's Chargers, who grounded "Air Coryell" in '86 but even showed signs of playing defense, which is unheard of in that part of California. This season could be respectable if the young defense continues to gel and quarterback Dan Fouts finds numerous 300-yard passing games.□

CHRISTIAN CORNER

BY TOM LANDRY

The business of running a football team can be a confusing task, but I have been able to do it successfully because of three factors:

Firstly—intense concentration. I get emotionally involved in the game, but I have to make sure that emotional involvement is very, very short-lived.

The second factor is my perspective of life. Winning a football game isn't the end of all things. It's got a priority, but it's not the number-one priority in my life. This creates for me a certain amount of calm, even though I'm human enough to suffer when we lose.

The third factor is a strong faith. This is really the most important factor in my life—my faith in Jesus Christ.

Someone else has said that our 'religion' is what we consider most valuable in life. For many years, football was my life. Everything I did when I was younger was centered on football. Even in those days, I had a very restless feeling, a feeling that I wanted to accomplish something, but I really didn't know what it was. I thought: "Well, it must be football."

As a boy in the small town of Mission, Texas, I thought, "If I could just be a part of a championship team, be an All-District halfback . . . . . " Just for a moment, I thought I had found out what life is all about. I was pretty proud of Tom Landry during that time, but it wore off quickly.

So, I set another goal—college football. I went to the University of Texas, a big step for a kid from a small town. I thought that if I could just become a football player at UT and accomplish some things there, I would have everything I wanted out of life. We went to the Sugar Bowl. We went to the Orange Bowl. We played a lot of great football. But this still wasn't enough to satisfy.

Then I went to professional football. I thought, "This must be it; this is the height of a football player's ambition." I started setting the same goals to calm my restlessness. I wanted to be All-Pro, which I was fortunate enough to achieve. After becoming the defensive coach of the New York Giants, I wanted to coach a championship team—which we had in 1956.

But every accomplishment left me with the same feeling after the enthusiasm wore off. I felt that way after what I believe was the greatest game of 1958, when the Giants played Baltimore for the NFL championship in the first overtime game ever played. I got back home and a friend of asked, "Tom, how about joining me in a Bible discussion group that we have over at the hotel?"

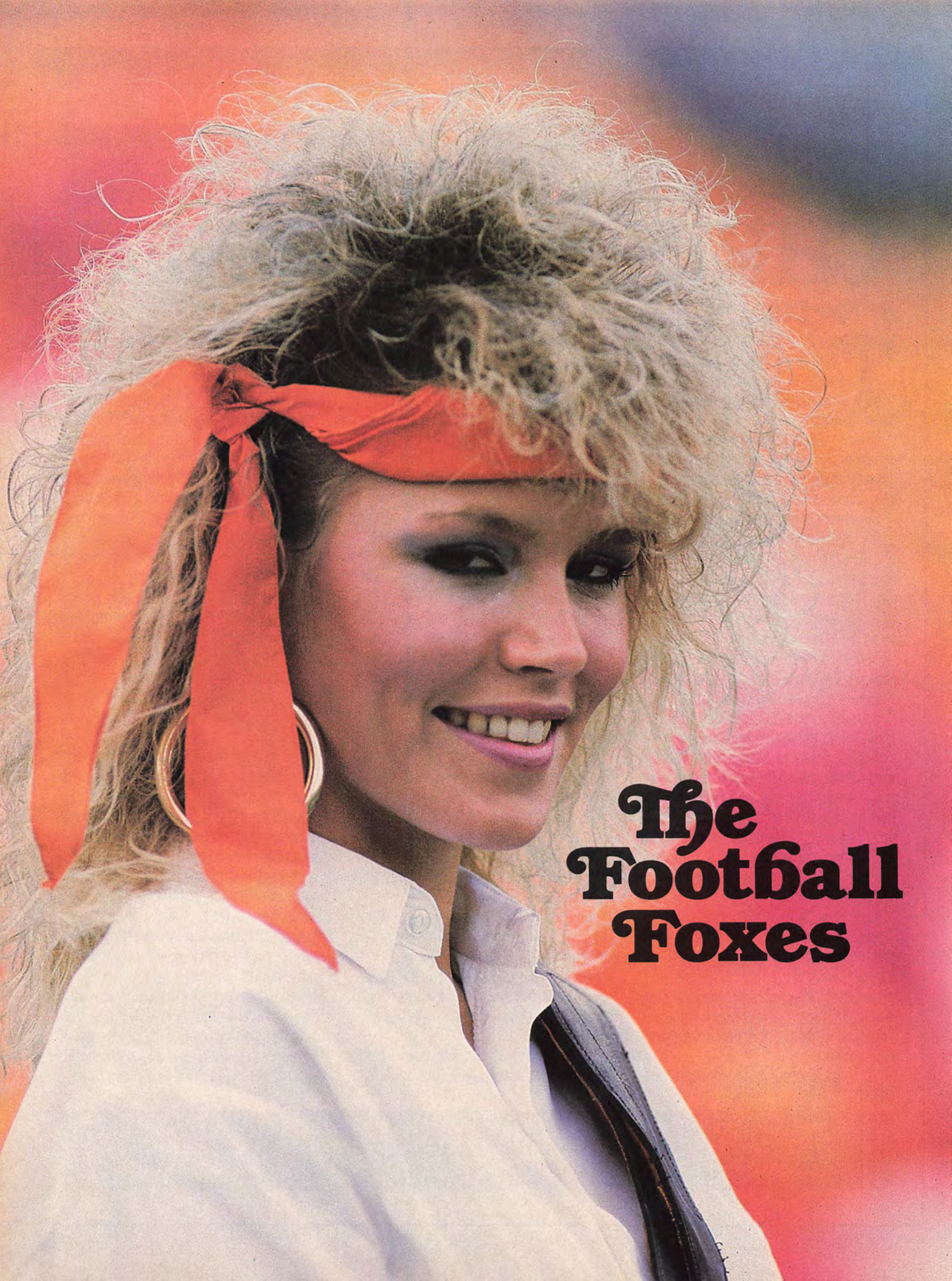
I agreed to go, but I thought, "Man, you've got to be crazy. I've been going to church all my life. I know all the Christmas stories and everything else that goes with this thing, and I have a pretty good conscience. I know right from wrong."

At that meeting, the discussion group happened to be studying the book of Matthew. Several verses shook my self-assured attitude, as I read the words of Jesus which said, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you shall eat or what you shall drink or about your body, what you shall put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing?" [Matthew 6:25]

I was moved. There was a book that had been at my elbow for 33 years, yet I hadn't really opened it up to look inside. For the first time, I was interested in seeing what it was all about. I continued to read; "Everyone, then, who hears these words of mine, and does them, will be like a man who built his house on a rock, and the rain fell and the floods came, and the wind blew and beat upon the house, but it did not fall because it was grounded on a rock." [Matthew 7:24-25]

I believe the most disappointing aspect of my life was that I waited until I was 33 years old to discover the fellowship of Jesus Christ. I just think how much more fulfilling my life could have been if I had taken the time to really study the Bible.

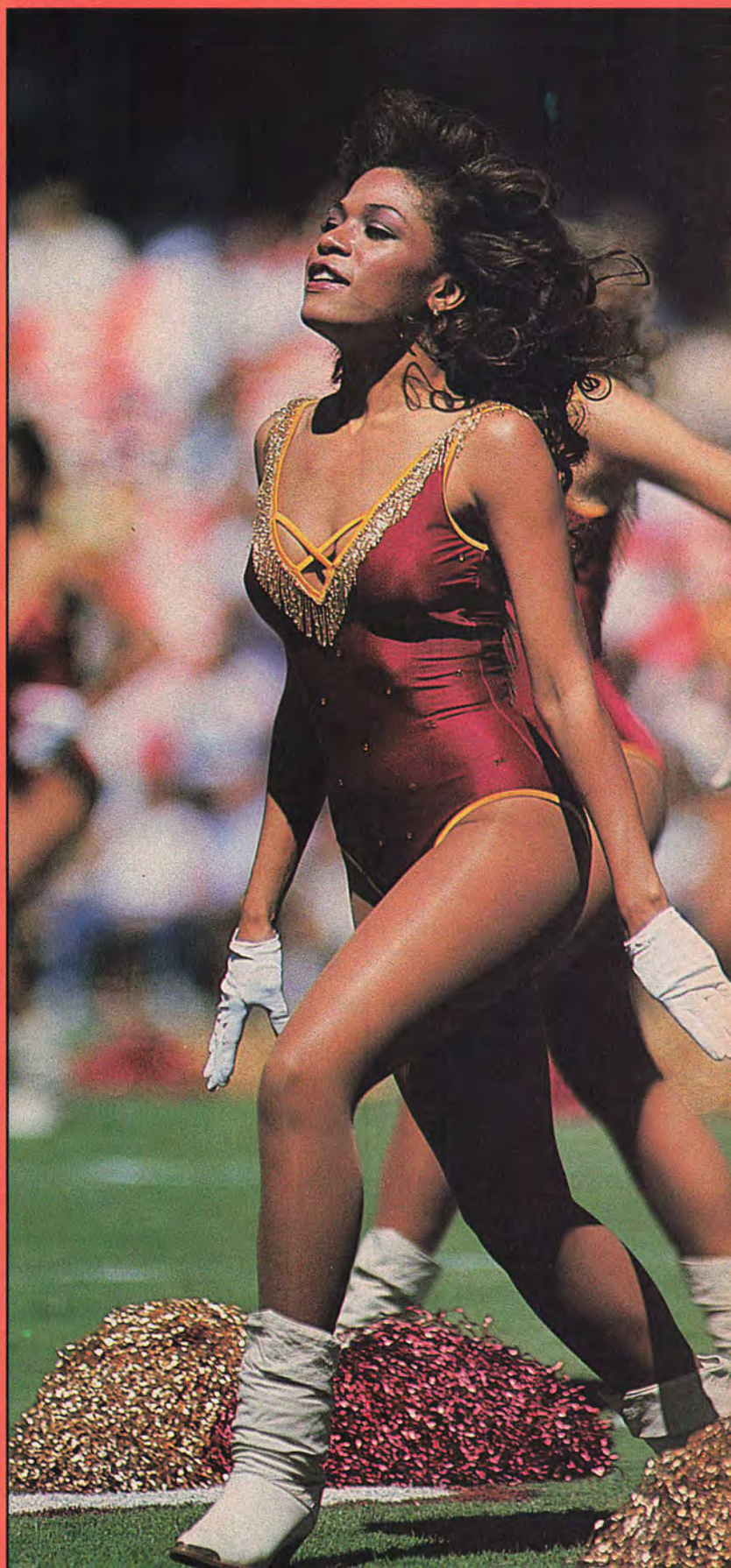
I think most people at some time or another in their lives think, "I'm not good enough to be a Christian." They don't realize that God will give them the power to become His children. All they must do is have faith in Him—recognize that Jesus did die on the cross for their sins, that we all are sinners and that it is only through Jesus Christ that we can have our sins forgiven, and receive the abundant life that God promises us.□


The
Football
Foxes

LOS ANGELES RAMS'
Teri Beradino

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS'
← Rhonda Van Waes

WASHINGTON REDSKINS'
Amber



DALLAS COWBOYS'—Lindsay Merritt

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES'—Erin Stetser

DALLAS COWBOYS LINE

M.V.P.

(Most Valuable Pair)

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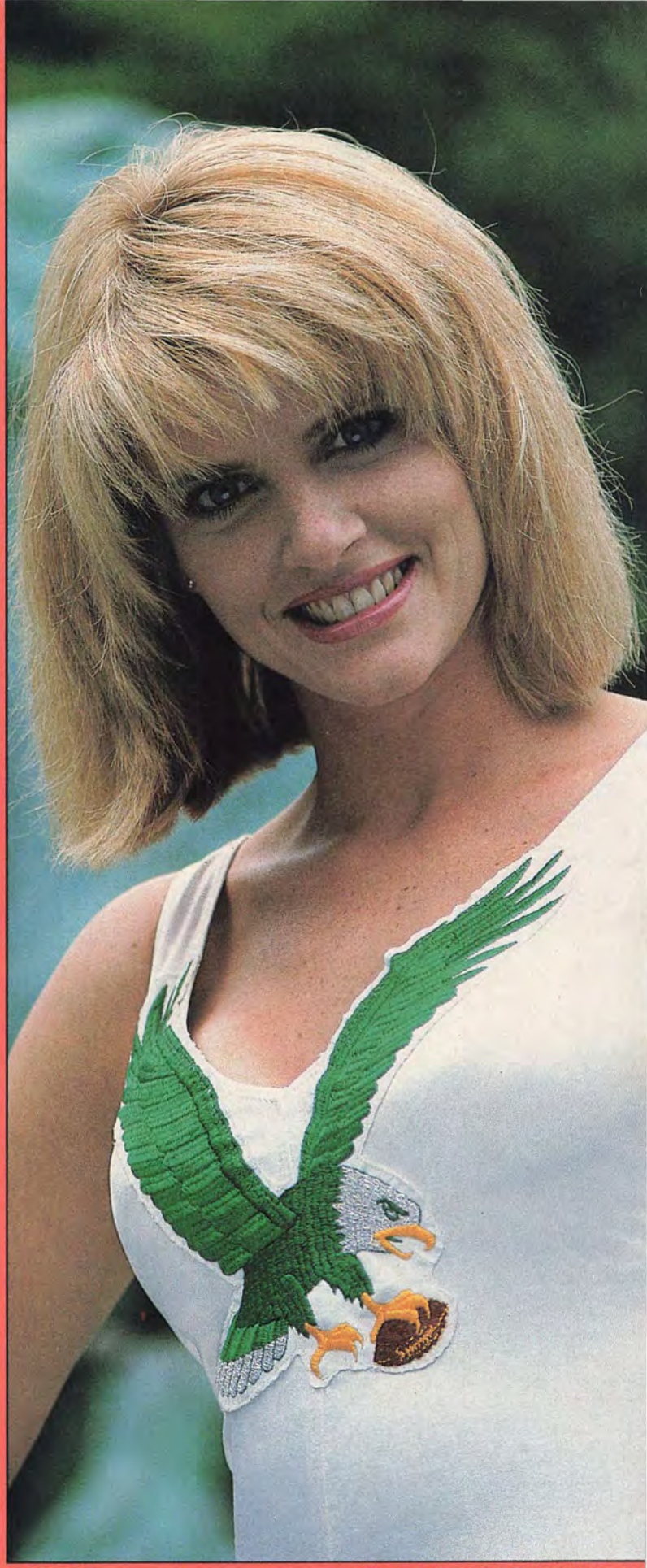
LOS ANGELES RAIDERS'—Evelyn Pantoja

DALLAS COWBOYS' Cindee Doughty



PHILADELPHIA EAGLES' Cass Vanderslice

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS'—Tina Jeannette

ATLANTA FALCONS'
Stacie Kimbro

LOS ANGELES—Jill Thompson

The Spirit of Volunteering...

Gerald Riggs, of the Atlanta Falcons, is a star of the NFL. On the field, he's known by millions. But Gerald's life doesn't end there. Off the field, he's involved in his community as a United Way volunteer. Chances are, you've seen Gerald on television in one of the NFL/United Way public-service spots.

Gerald has contributed his time to services that address the teenage drinking problem in the Atlanta area. "I've got a personal reason for wanting to see young people avoid the dangers of drinking and driving," Gerald says. "I want every child to have a chance at life—and my son is one more reason why this message is so important to me."

United Way

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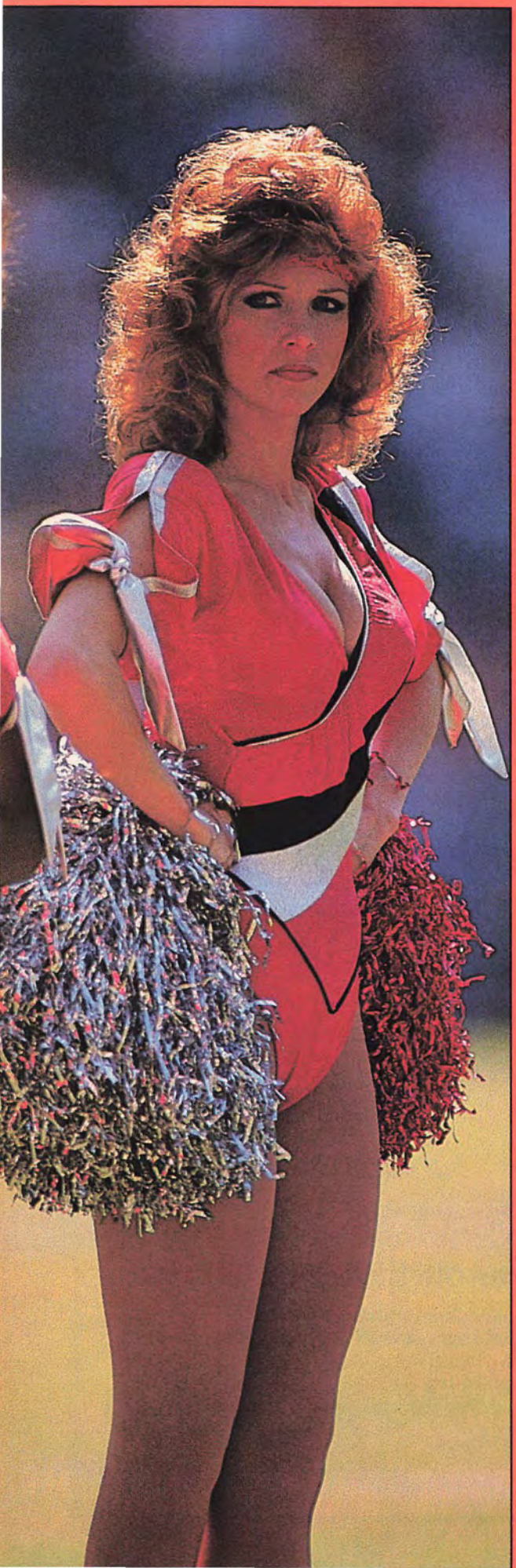
People have been making United Way work for almost 100 years now. When you volunteer—and when you give to United Way—you too are helping to solve problems. See all that we've been, and be part of all that we can become, together—the United Way.



ATLANTA FALCONS'
Tina Burke

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS'
Julie Weeks

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES'—Patty Reilly

ATLANTA FALCONS'
Debbie McLain

The sun setting on Phoenix—a likely NFL expansion city

NFL EXPANSION

Phoenix Heads Likely List

BY WILL McDONOUGH

They were walking the beach in front of the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Maui trying not to look conspicuous, but not getting away with it.

The rest of the beach was clad in bathing suits, sunglasses and assorted sun-blocks and tanning lotions. The two of them were outfitted in slacks, shirts, ties and blue blazers that proudly boasted an emblem that resembled the outline of the state of Florida.

"Pardon me, sir," said one of the Florida blue blazers with a big smile on his face, "we'd like to talk to you about Jacksonville."

"What about it?" answered the stranger.

"Well, we think it should be number one in expansion for the NFL. What do

you think?''

''What's the NFL?'' asked the stranger, with a puzzled look on his face.

''Excuse us, sir,'' said the two blue blazers, taking leave quickly, ''we've got to be on our way.''

They were all at the National Football League's annual meeting in Maui, Hawaii this past Spring, hustling. They were hawking their wares in bars, on beaches, behind closed doors, anywhere they could get just one ear of anyone connected to the NFL.

The hustlers came in all sizes, sexes, and shapes from almost every part of the United States and even Canada. What they want is to be in on the next NFL gold rush. Expansions. Two more teams to come on line in America's number one sports league, probably in the Fall of 1989.

''That would be doing it quick,'' said Dan Rooney, president of the Pittsburgh Steelers, normally a guy who comes to the league meetings and moves about without any fanfare. But in 1987, everyone wanted a piece of Dan Rooney. The last time the NFL expanded in 1976, he was chairman of the four-member expansion committee which gave him power and influence in picking the two lucky cities that time around, Tampa and Seattle.

''In '76 we ended up with 25 cities that wanted to be considered,'' said Rooney, ''and we will probably have as many this time, once we officially name a committee. That won't happen probably until late this Fall, and I'm not even sure I will be on it.''

The chances are he will be, and he will be the chairman again, which made him the number one man to be romanced in Maui.

''We had contingents in here from Phoenix, Memphis, Jacksonville, Oakland, Sacramento, San Antonio and Montreal. Birmingham wasn't here and Baltimore didn't send anyone, but they have already told us they are interested. When it gets started again, we might end up with 25 starting out. The last time we did it, we even had a bid from Mexico City.''

In January in Los Angeles, just two days before the New York Giants thrashed the Denver Bronco's, Commissioner Pete Rozelle, delivering his annual State of NFL message to the assembled media, revealed that he would like the league to expand by two more teams—from 28 to 30—possibly by 1989.

NFL COMMISSIONER PETE ROZELLE

''I said before, we would not consider expanding until three problems were resolved. The first was the United States Football League...''

''I said before, we would not consider expanding until three problems were resolved,'' says Rozelle. ''The first was the United States Football League. They were suing us and some of the cities that wanted to be considered for expansion, and we didn't want another lawsuit on our hands. The second thing we had to get out of the way was the network television package, and we have done that. So, as soon as we are finished with the new collective bargaining agreement with the players, then we can go about the business of expanding.''

There seems to be a ten-year expansion cycle in pro football. In 1966, the American Football League took in Miami and Cincinnati and the National Football League took in New Orleans and Atlanta. The AFL price was $6 million. The NFL price was reportedly $8 million.

In 1976, after the two leagues merged officially in 1969, the price went up. Seattle and Tampa came in for $16 million each. This time around, the price is going to be higher. Much, much higher.

''You keep on hearing numbers between $72 million to $75 million,'' says Fred Smith of Memphis, who founded and made Federal Express a great company in America, and the man leading the drive to put an NFL team in Tennessee. ''What will be important is how that money is to be paid. Will the new teams be included in the television package? And what the structure of the ownership is like.''

In the past, geography seemed to be the number one priority for the National Football League in expansion. With each move they tried more and more to spread across the United States. ''We went into the Northwest for the first time,'' said Dan Rooney, referring to Seattle, ''and then the other team (Tampa) was all the way down in the Southeast. I hope there are new things other than how much money it could mean to the league, or the owners in the league.''

Although Rooney cites the major factors as:

- *Television market*
- *Geographical considerations*
- *Stadium size*
- *Economic stability of the local market*

The people in the know around the league feel that the bottom line will be the top dollar.

''The party is not quite over,'' says

Art Modell, owner of the Cleveland Browns and one of the most respected members of the league, "but the champagne will not flow as freely."

Times are tough in the NFL when compared to the recent past. Skyrocketing payrolls, a residue of the battle with the USFL, and a backsliding TV economy, has stopped the continual financial growth of the NFL for the first time in history.

Therefore, in terms of expansion, the owners, more than ever before, are going to look at what happens in terms of a cold, hard, business deal. The city that can promise the most revenue to the visiting team will be the city that is first in line for a team.

In the NFL almost all revenues are shared. The TV package is divided 28 ways. The visiting team takes home 40 percent of the game revenues after game expenses. There is a simple formula for gate revenues. Take the number of seats available, mix in the price per ticket, and multiply it out. For example, in New England, with a 60,000 seat stadium and an average ticket price of $20, the gate for a home game is $1.2 million. The visiting team, with a sellout, can take home $500,000 for the day.

By comparison, in a place like St. Louis, with 50,000 seats at an average of $17, and the average attendance of 40,000, the take home is going to be considerably less, somewhere around $300,000. Taking a look at all of the ranking contenders: 1. Phoenix, 2. Oakland, 3. Memphis, 4. Jacksonville, 5. Baltimore, the formula would seem to favor a combination of Phoenix with either Memphis or Jacksonville.

There is no NFL team in the southwestern United States so Phoenix would pioneer this market. Phoenix has 75,000 seats available in Arizona State's Sun Devil Stadium and also has a group that says it will build an 80,000 seat domed stadium in the area. Phoenix has three groups in the bidding, and two possible stadium sites. It also has a history. Bob Irsay romanced it and made it look as though he was going to move his team there from Baltimore, pushing the stakes higher for Indianapolis, where he later settled and now makes more money than any other team in the league. Leonard Tose threatened to move the Eagles out of Philadelphia and land them in Arizona before he sold out. Bill Bidwell in St. Louis has subtly threatened to move his team to Phoenix the past two years. Some of the players involved in Phoenix are Bart Starr, Bill Tatham, and Frank Kush. Starr is affiliated with one group wanting to buy the team. Tatham, former owner of the USFL franchise in the city, and Kush, his former coach, are looking for the same thing.

Taking a look at all of the ranking contenders:
1. Phoenix,
2. Oakland,
3. Memphis,
4. Jacksonville,
5. Baltimore.

Oakland is the sentimental favorite. There is some feeling of an IOU from the NFL owners, after this city supported the Raiders so well before they left for Los Angeles after a dispute over the lease in the Oakland-Alameda Coliseum. However, there is already a team in this market, San Francisco. And San Francisco does not want a team in Oakland. Secondly, the stadium is not big.

Baltimore is in a similar situation, losing a team to Indianapolis, but the stadium is a horror show and the Washington Redskins are only 50 miles away.

Memphis and Jacksonville should develop as stronger contenders than Oakland or Baltimore. Both have bigger and better stadiums. Memphis sold 37,000 season tickets in the USFL, best in the league, and it was a legitimate count. Jacksonville also supported its team well.

Any of the rest, San Antonio, Sacramento, Montreal, and whoever jumps into the mix once the expansion committee is formed and things get hot, will be longshots.

"The first thing we do is just look at the cities," said Dan Rooney. "If we get 25 in all, like we did last time, then our committee will break it down to 12 teams. Then we will hire someone to do a feasibility study of these 12 cities. Last time, we picked the Stanford Research Institute."

When SRI brings back its report, the NFL committee will reduce the group to five. At that point, these five cities will be presented to the 28 owners in the league. The owners, with three-fourths approval being needed (21 or 28 votes), will then vote in the two new franchises.

"First, we get the city," says Rooney, "then we go for the owner. No matter what city we pick, I am sure there will be several groups from each city and we will just try to pick the one we feel is best."

If the franchises run for $75 million each, the NFL owners would have $150 million to divide up. On paper each of the existing franchises would be owed about $5 million, and the league office would also be cut in on the deal.

Rooney thinks the new teams will be brought into the TV package immediately. If the money is around $16.9 million per year per team at the time, the money would go a long way toward paying off the bank loans these teams would need.

Consensus is that the NFL will give the new teams a long time to pay off the money, helping to ease their financial burden. Unless a major hitch develops, the timetable will see a committee formed this Fall, selection of the two teams next March, an expansion draft to take place following the 1988 season.

"One major thing we have to do," says Dan Rooney, "is try to get a handle on exactly where we are going. What happens after we get to 30? Do we go to 32 next? That would be two conferences of 16 each. Or do we keep going all the way out to 36 teams, with every division having six teams in it all the way across the board?"□

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PAUL HORNUNG

continued from page 47

So, when Flaget bogged down against Male midway through Hornung's sophomore year in 1950, Miller benched his two senior quarterbacks and sent in Hornung to run the sophisticated attack that depended on the quarterback's ability to run, pass, and pitch out.

A victory in that game earned Hornung the job that he kept for the next 2 1/2 years. In his junior year, when the Braves were 8-2, Hornung made an impression on McDonald in a game against St. Xavier.

"He called a pass play," said McDonald, "then he told me to delay a little bit longer than usual because, 'You're going to score on this one.' And I did. Nobody around me. He had that kind of football sense."

Hornung's senior team of 1952 still is mentioned every time fans argue about the best high school team in Kentucky history. It definitely gets the biased vote of Miller, now the Circuit Court Clerk in Jefferson County.

The Braves averaged 190 pounds in the line, big for those days, and had a halfback named Sherrill Sipes who was fast enough to win the sprints at the State Track Meet.

"Sipes had speed but he was never as good as Paul," said Miller. "You'd tackle Paul and he'd throw the pitch out. You just couldn't stop him."

The team's only loss came at Oak Ridge, TN, where an official discounted a Hornung field goal that Paul still says was good.

After watching what Hornung did against Lafayette in the Recreation Bowl—including the monumental kick-off—Bryant wanted the Flaget star so badly that he pulled out all the stops.

He had Gov. Lawrence Wetherby visit Paul and his mother, promised Hornung that he could start as a freshman and said he would give scholarships to every one of Flaget's senior starters.

The last wasn't quite as outrageous as it might seem. Eight Flaget seniors were to get major college scholarships, and Bryant already had signed a couple of Hornung's linemen, J.T. Frankenberger and John Noonan.

Hornung was tempted because, after all, Bryant already had taken UK to the Orange, Sugar and Cotton Bowls. And his football hero was former UK quarterback Vito 'Babe' Parilli.

"I wanted to go to UK," he said, "but my mother wanted me to go to Notre Dame. She was very Catholic and inclined to lean that way. Plus, Sherrill (Sipes) also wanted to go to Notre Dame and he was my best friend."

It didn't bother Hornung that Notre Dame coach Frank Leahy had seen him play only on film. In those days Leahy

was a larger-than-life figure who ruled supreme over the nation's greatest college football empire.

After attending a Notre Dame-Southern Cal game in South Bend and receiving an audience with Leahy, Hornung and Sipes announced they were going to Notre Dame as a package deal.

"To a Catholic boy, Notre Dame was even bigger than it is now," Miller said. "Plus, they ran the same split-T that we did at Flaget. It was perfect for Paul. I said he'd make All-American if he didn't get hurt."

Years later, perhaps remembering that mighty kickoff in the Recreation Bowl, Bryant would tell audiences that the reason he left UK for Texas A&M in 1953 was that he didn't get Hornung, whom he had called the best prospect he ever saw.

"I loved Flaget," Hornung says now. "High school is the best time of your life, but you don't realize it until long after you're out. High school is pure fun. In college, it gets a lot more serious."

On a December day in 1956, Hornung was told to come to the office of Charlie Callahan, then the sports information director at the University of Notre Dame.

When he walked in the door, Callahan handed him a telephone and said, "Here, tell your mother you just won the Heisman Trophy."

For once, Hornung was almost speechless. His senior team at the famed private Catholic school in South Bend, Indiana, had managed only a 2-8 record, the worst season in Irish history to that point.

To show what an upset his selection was, consider that the school's first four Heisman winners (Angelo Bertelli, Johnny Lujack, Leon Hart and Johnny Lattner) played on teams with a combined record of 37-1-1.

Anyway, it wasn't as if there was no competition. Also in the class of '56 were Jim Brown of Syracuse, Johnny Majors of Tennessee, Jim Park of Ohio State, Ron Kramer of Michigan, John Arnett of Southern Cal, John Brodie of Stanford and Tommy McDonald and Jerry Tubbs of Oklahoma.

Besides being the first—and still the only—Heisman winner from a losing team, Hornung wasn't even named to the consensus All-American backfield (Majors, Brodie, McDonald and Brown).

So why Hornung?

"Because of my junior year and because I was at Notre Dame," Hornung said. "It's the greatest institution in the world for football. I used to tell Ron Kramer that Michigan football may be big in Michigan, but Notre Dame is big in every state."

When Hornung and Flaget High School teammate Sherrill Sipes arrived at South Bend in the fall of 1952, a behind-the-scenes power struggle was being waged between football coach Frank Leahy and the University administration.

I used to tell Ron Kramer that Michigan football may be big in Michigan, but Notre Dame is big in every state.

The coach had become so powerful that the new young president, the Rev. Theodore M. Hesburgh, had decided to cut him down to size by reducing his number of football scholarships.

After a 9-0-1 record in 1953, Leahy resigned in protest. His .855 winning percentage (87-11-9) still is surpassed on the all-time college list only by another Notre Dame coach, Knute Rockne, who won at an .881 clip (105-12-5).

It took the three years of Hornung's varsity career for the scholarship reductions to have an impact on new coach Terry Brennan. The Irish went from 9-1 in Hornung's sophomore year to 8-2 in his junior season to the dismal 2-8 of his senior campaign.

"Brennan was a good coach," Hornung still insists. "He just was a victim of the scholarship thing and what they called 'academic excellence' or some bull. Of the 30 players who were in my freshman class, only Jim Morse and I played as seniors. We got killed."

Ineligible for varsity competition as a freshman, Hornung made such an impression in the spring game—he threw three touchdown passes—that Courier Journal sportswriter Tommy Fitzgerald dubbed him "The Golden Boy," a nickname that was to stick.

As a sophomore in 1954, Hornung understudied senior quarterbacks Ralph Guglielmi and Tom Carey. Brennan also used him at safety, left halfback and fullback on a team that lost only to Purdue, 27-14, in its second game.

Hornung inherited the starting quarterback's job in 1955 amid much preseason hoopla. By midseason, it was obvious that while he didn't have as good an arm as Purdue's Lenny Dawson and Stanford's John Brodie, he was perhaps the best all-around athlete in the nation.

He may have won the next year's Heisman Trophy in the last two games of his junior year, a 17-14 victory over Iowa at South Bend and a 42-20 loss to Southern California in Los Angeles.

In the Iowa game, with the Irish trailing 14-7, Hornung directed a touchdown drive that ended when he retreated under heavy pressure to his 40-yard line, then hit Morse with a scoring pass. He added the extra point to tie it.

After Notre Dame regained possession with less than five minutes to go, Hornung hit Morse with a 35-yard pass. The pass set up Hornung's game-winning, 28-yard field goal. The Irish players and fans were so excited that they carried Hornung off the field.

"The next day," said Hornung, "Brennan called me in to tell me I had made history. He said he had never known a player to be carried off the field in Notre Dame Stadium."

A week later, in the loss to Southern Cal, Hornung passed and ran for a total of 354 yards, the single-game high for the season. And that didn't count his yardage returning punts and kickoffs.

Because Notre Dame then had a policy of not accepting bowl invitations, Hornung didn't have the chance to strut

his stuff on New Year's Day. Even so, such was the magnitude of Notre Dame's national exposure that he went into the 1956 season favored to win the Heisman Trophy.

It didn't exactly hurt Hornung that, by this time, his playboy image was building. While his teammates dated coeds from nearby St. Mary's of the Woods, Hornung was dating starlets, models and Chicago show girls.

In his senior year, the only Irish victories came over Indiana and North Carolina. And by the time the Irish received a midseason 40-0 drubbing from eventual national champion Oklahoma on national television, Hornung seemed to have lost any chance for the Heisman.

Although he played his last three games with both thumbs dislocated, he closed his college career with a 95-yard kickoff return for a touchdown in a 28-20 loss to Southern Cal. He also had the only three receptions of his college career.

As surprising as the Heisman voting was, Hornung didn't have to apologize to anybody, especially when the Green Bay Packers won the National Football League's 'bonus' pick and made Hornung the No. 1 choice in the pro draft.

"That proved that he deserved the Heisman," Notre Dame's Callahan told writer Dave Newhouse. "He was the best football player in the country."

After his pro career, Hornung returned to Notre Dame every fall from 1970 to '81 to work with Lindsey Nelson on the Irish radio network.

In 1985, he was elected to join 33 other former Notre Dame men (five coaches, 28 players) in the National Football Foundation's College Hall of Fame at Kings Island, Ohio.

An interesting footnote to Hornung's college career came in 1982, when the NCAA had him removed from certain cable telecasts of college football on the grounds that "he does not personify college football" and "had at least one undesirable public situation while a professional player," apparently his suspension for gambling.

Hornung took the NCAA to court. Last year, a Jefferson Circuit Court jury awarded him $1.16 million. The NCAA is appealing that decision.

For a coach whose team was the defending National Football League champion and winner of Super Bowl I, Vince Lombardi was in a strangely somber mood when he greeted his 1967 squad at training camp.

For the first time since Lombardi's arrival in Green Bay in 1959, the Packers would be suiting up without Hornung, who had decided to retire because of a severe neck injury.

Even had he decided to play, of course, Hornung wouldn't have been with Green Bay. After the '66 season, the New Orleans Saints had picked him off the expansion-draft list.

After the glamour of playing at Notre Dame and winning the Heisman Trophy, Hornung wasn't exactly thrilled at the idea of playing in Green Bay.

"We're going to miss Paul a great deal," Lombardi told his team. "He was a leader and he added a lot of spice to professional football. We will replace the other fellow."

The "other fellow" just happened to be fullback Jim Taylor, who also was gone after teaming with Hornung for nine years to make the famed "Packer sweep" the most feared running attack in pro football.

Taylor was so good that he was to make the Professional Football Hall of Fame before Hornung. Yet, in Lombardi's heart, nobody was even close to "The Golden Boy" from Louisville.

Lombardi's widow, Marie, has told of the night the Packers' coach was awakened at 4 a.m. by a telephone call.

"Oh, my God," he said. "What's happened to Hornung now?"

"Pick it up," said his wife.

"I'm afraid to," said Lombardi.

"Vince," said Mrs. Lombardi, "it could be about your own son or daughter, you know. Yet all you think about is Hornung."

Hornung arrived at Green Bay two years before Lombardi. After the glamour of playing at Notre Dame and winning the Heisman Trophy, Hornung wasn't exactly thrilled at the idea of playing in Green Bay.

Heading into the 1957 season, the Packers had gone 10 years without a winning record. And the smallest city in the NFL hardly afforded the sort of social life that Hornung and his new buddy, end Max McGee, had learned to enjoy.

"I hated Green Bay back then," Hornung told writer Dave Newhouse. "When I got there, Green Bay was the Siberia of sports."

Since the pros used the drop back passing game instead of the split-T he had run in high school and college, Hornung had to make a big adjustment. His passing never had been quite as good as his running and kicking.

The Packers' coach, Lisle Blackbourn, was so excited to get the multi-talented Hornung that he rotated him around all the backfield positions until the prize rookie suffered an ankle injury.

After a 3-9 season, Blackbourn was fired and replaced by Ray "Scooter" McLean, who resigned at the end of a 1-10-1 season that was Green Bay's worst in history.

The next coach, Hornung's third in three pro seasons, was Lombardi, who had been an assistant with the New York Giants. It didn't take Lombardi long to tell Hornung that he would play left halfback, period.

"That suited me fine," Hornung said. "That was the same position Frank Gifford had played with the Giants, and I knew I was a hell of a lot better athlete than Gifford. I knew if he could play left

■ *continued on page 222*

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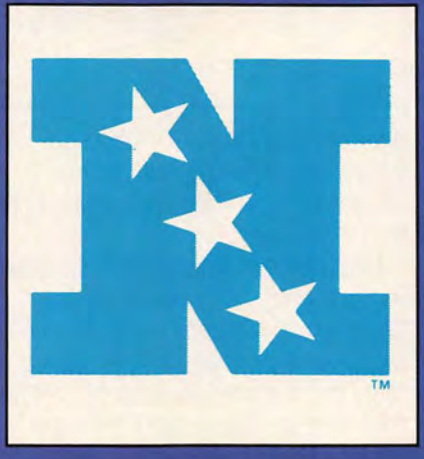


LOS ANGELES
RAMS

NEW ORLEANS
SAINTS

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

NFL'S OLDEST STARTING OFFENSIVE LINE

BY IRA MILLER ■ *[Steve Young was acquired from Tampa Bay on 4/25.]*

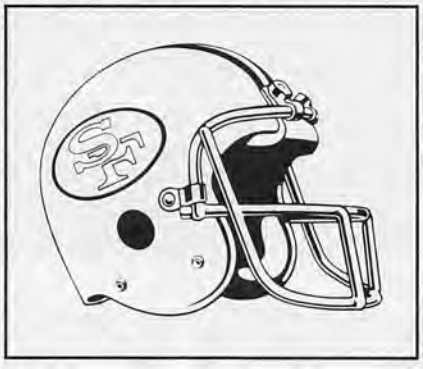
For the San Francisco 49ers' fans, it was a nice ride while it lasted. Their team had as much claim on the first half of the '80's in the NFL as any team in the league—winning two Super Bowls and four division titles in a span of six years, compiling a record of 68-30-1.

But the party may be over, and not just because the 49ers were blown out, 49-3, by the Giants in one of the most one-sided playoff games ever. The San Francisco team that looked so dominant in Super Bowl XIX after the 1984 season, the one that appeared to be virtually without a weakness, has sprung leaks everywhere. As the 49ers head into the 1987 season, there isn't a spot on the team not subject to scrutiny, and possible change, by head coach Bill Walsh.

Age is only part of the problem. The defensive backfield wasn't old. In 1984, San Francisco became the first NFL team ever to have its entire starting secondary play in the Pro Bowl. But by 1986, only one of those four players, strong safety Carlton Williamson, still was playing the same position as a starter. There were a combination of factors responsible for the shake-up, though in this case it was not age.

At other positions, however, age has started catching up. Last season, the 49ers had the NFL's oldest starting offensive line, based on the average age of the starters at the five interior spots plus tight end. Quarterback Joe Montana, who missed half of the 1986 season after undergoing back surgery, hit the 30 mark last year and he has been beaten-up physically for two straight seasons; even before having his back surgery, he had had a series of other minor injuries. Running back Wendell Tyler, who was 31, had to retire because of knee problems.

Walsh went into the '87 draft with two picks in each of the first two rounds, hoping to get immediate help. The



49ers had a good draft in 1986, particularly in finding pass-rusher Charles Haley (a team-high 12 sacks) on the fourth round.

Most of the attention heading into this year's training camp will be on the quarterback. Montana is usually the focus, anyway, but he'll be watched more this summer because this will be the true test of his return from back surgery. When he came back in 1986 for the final seven games, he was underweight, hardly in top shape, and not in his old form. In the last two seasons, he has been older, slower and more fragile than the miracle man the fans remember from the early '80s.

During the off-season, Montana took on a rigorous conditioning program to try to meet Walsh's goal of bulking up to about 200 pounds (he had played in the past at no more than 190) as a way of strengthening himself. Montana insisted that he didn't really need the weight, but went through the program anyway.

Walsh admittedly had his eye on Tampa Bay's Steve Young and the teams talked trade. Walsh then tried to downplay that interest, saying he expected Montana to come back in great shape and play at least three more seasons. But the 49ers are, at minimum, interested in developing a possible successor to Montana.

It won't be Jeff Kemp, who nevertheless played well in his six games as the starter last year. Kemp's strength was in adding the long ball to the 49ers' offense, and making excellent use of Jerry Rice. But Kemp is only a couple of years younger than Montana and when the time comes for a change, Walsh will want a younger man.

Walsh identified running back as the number one area of need for this year. He's hoping to find a new back to team with Roger Craig, a four-year veteran, for the long haul. With Tyler being phased out, Joe Cribbs came in and did a credible job at the end of the season. But Cribbs is now 29, and even though he's healthy, he has a lot of miles on him, both from Buffalo and Birmingham, in the USFL.

Craig played hurt—a deep hip bruise— during most of the '86 season and did not have the effectiveness that he had in 1985, when he became the first NFL player to both rush for and

catch passes for more than 1,000 yards in a season. Craig's total, rushing and receiving, fell off from 2,066 yards to 1,454. Most significantly, his average yards per reception dropped dramatically, from 11.0 to 7.7, and his touchdowns fell from 15 to seven.

The 49ers are still deep at wide receiver. Jerry Rice, in his second NFL season, developed into an All-World player. He caught a league-high 15 touchdown passes as he caught passes for 1,570 yards. Dwight Clark hit the 30 mark right after the season, but he shows signs he can go on for a couple more years as a possession-type receiver. The 49ers are high on John Taylor, a third-round draft choice who spent all of last season on injured reserve, and Derrick Crawford, a little speedster from the USFL. Crawford, also heralded as a kick returner, did nothing of note in the 10 games he played last season.

Tight end Russ Francis had a fine season in 1986. In fact, his last two years have been his two most prolific as an NFL pass catcher. But Francis is 34. John Frank, a former second-round draft choice and Francis' backup the last three seasons, has shown no indication that he's ready to move into a regular role, which makes this a position of concern for Walsh.

The only youngster on the starting offensive line is Bubba Paris, the weighty left tackle. Paris, the 49ers' top draft choice in 1982, has been criticized for keeping his weight above 300 pounds despite the 49ers' efforts to have him reduce.

The rest of the holdover linemen read like this: left guard John Ayers (34), center Fred Quillan (31), right guard Randy Cross (33), right tackle Keith Fahnhorst (35). Ayers had a knee injury at the end of the '86 season and Guy McIntyre took his place. It may be difficult for Ayers to get his job back. McIntyre, a three-year veteran, is a quick, powerful albeit smallish man who is particularly adept at the kind of pull-run blocking the 49ers do. But Ayers is a superior pass blocker.

Quillan actually was benched for part of last season, and there has been speculation that Cross might be shifted over to center. If that were to happen, Bruce Collie, a 275-pound, two-year veteran, might play guard. Collie originally was drafted as a tackle, and started several games there last year while Paris was recuperating from minor knee surgery. But the 49ers' coaches have been impressed with his size/speed ratio as a guard. Steve Wallace, a fourth-round draft choice in 1986, is the hoped-for successor to Fahnhorst, but Wallace didn't show the coaches enough to earn any playing time as a rookie.

On the defense, the 49ers are once more threatening a shuffle at linebacker. After the '86 season, Walsh said he wanted to deploy bigger linebackers. The idea was to try to copy the success of the champion Giants, whose smallest starting linebacker was bigger than the 49ers' biggest starting linebacker.

During the winter, San Francisco traded for Tampa Bay's Keith Browner, who had fallen out of favor with the Bucs. Browner reported to the 49ers' off-season camp at 256 pounds, but the team hoped to get him down to 245, which still would have left him as San Francisco's heaviest linebacker. Browner is a contender to start as the strongside outside linebacker for the 49ers, who flop their LBs depending on the offensive formation. Milt McColl played satisfactorily in that spot in 1986. Tom Cousineau, acquired from Cleveland on waivers at the start of the 1986 season, is another contender.

And what of Todd Shell, the first-round draft choice in 1984 who was supposed to have that position? Shell has spent more time on the injury list than on the field, and San Francisco apparently isn't counting on him anymore as a prospective full-time player. The plan is to move Shell to the weakside, where he could give Keena Turner an occasional rest.

Riki Ellison provides both hard-hitting and emotion at one of the inside linebacker positions, but the 49ers haven't been totally pleased with either Michael Walter, a good athlete, or Jim Fahnhorst at the other position. Fahnhorst, a more physical player, became the starter during the 1986 season.

The key to the defensive line is Michael Carter, the 300-plus nose guard who had a Pro Bowl year in '85 but was hampered by bad ankles most of '86. One line of thinking goes that opponents aimed at Carter's ankles as retaliation for the 49ers' offensive line blocking, which included a lot of legal clipping in the interior. The rule was modified during the off-season, which makes some of the 49ers' blocks illegal. The 49ers are hoping this also will take some pressure off Carter.

Haley, a quick, lightweight player in the mold of Fred Dean, was a pleasant surprise last year. Jeff Stover, who threw the shot but did not play football in college, also has continued to improve as a pass-rusher. But Dwaine Board, the other end with Dean on the 49ers' Super Bowl teams, will be 31 in November.

About that '84 Pro Bowl unit. It was Williamson, free safety Dwight Hicks and cornerbacks Ronnie Lott and Eric Wright. Hicks, who lost his job in a position swap with Lott during the '85 season, was released during training camp in 1986, ostensibly in a salary dispute, and eventually wound up playing for the Colts. During his hiatus from the game, Hicks admitted that he had used cocaine, and speculated that was why the 49ers released him. Though Hicks failed a drug test in 1985, he remained with the team as long as he was starting.

Lott was the focal point of the switch because the coaches felt he had lost a step at cornerback and was better suited as a safety anyway. In his first full season as a free safety, Lott played terrific in 1986. He had a league-leading 10 pass interceptions, provided steady leadership for two rookie cornerbacks, and was voted to the Pro Bowl for the fifth time in six seasons in the league.

Wright's return from a bone

■ *continued on page 107*

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Runager**, Max	P	6-1	189	9	South Carolina
9	**Kemp**, Jeff	QB	6-1	200	7	Dartmouth
11	**Gagliano**, Bob	QB	6-3	195	4	Utah State
14	**Wersching**, Ray	K	5-11	215	15	California
16	**Montana**, Joe	QB	6-2	195	9	Notre Dame
20	**Nixon**, Tory	CB	5-11	186	3	San Diego State
21	**Wright**, Eric	CB	6-1	185	7	Missouri
22	**McKyer**, Tim	CB	6-0	177	2	Texas-Arlington
24	**Harmon**, Derrick	RB	5-10	202	4	Cornell
25	**Rogers**, Jimmy	RB	5-10	190	6	Oklahoma
27	**Williamson**, Carlton	SS	6-0	202	7	Pittsburgh
28	**Cribbs**, Joe	RB	5-11	190	7	Auburn
29	**Griffin**, Don	CB	6-1	178	2	Middle Tennessee
30	**Ring**, Bill	FB	5-10	205	7	Brigham Young
32	**Monroe**, Carl	RB-KR	5-8	179	5	Utah
33	**Craig**, Roger	FB	6-0	223	5	Nebraska
42	**Lott**, Ronnie	FS	6-0	200	7	Southern California
44	**Rathman**, Tom	FB	6-1	228	2	Nebraska
46	**Holmoe**, Tom	FS	6-2	195	4	Brigham Young
49	**Fuller**, Jeff	SS	6-2	216	4	Texas A&M
50	**Ellison**, Riki	ILB	6-2	225	2	Southern California
51	**Cross**, Randy	G	6-3	265	12	UCLA
53	**McColl**, Milt	OLB	6-6	230	7	Stanford
54	**Ferrari**, Ron	OLB	6-0	213	6	Illinois
55	**Fahnhorst**, Jim	ILB	6-4	230	4	Minnesota
56	**Quillan**, Fred	C	6-5	266	10	Oregon
57	**Cousineau**, Tom	ILB	6-3	225	6	Ohio State
58	**Turner**, Keena	OLB	6-2	219	8	Purdue
59	**Browner**, Keith	LB	6-6	245	4	Southern California
61	**Sapolu**, Jesse	G-C	6-4	260	2	Hawaii
62	**McIntyre**, Guy	G	6-3	265	4	Georgia
64	**Durrette**, Michael	G	6-4	280	2	West Virginia
65	**Rogers**, Doug	DE	6-5	280	5	Stanford
67	**Kulger**, Pete	NT-DE	6-4	255	5	Penn State
68	**Ayers**, John	G	6-5	265	11	West Texas State
69	**Collie**, Bruce	T	6-6	275	3	Texas-Arlington
71	**Fahnhorst**, Keith	T	6-6	273	14	Minnesota
72	**Stover**, Jeff	DE	6-5	275	6	Oregon
74	**Wallace**, Steve	T	6-6	285	2	Auburn
75	**Harty**, John	DE	6-4	263	6	Iowa
76	**Board**, Dwaine	DE	6-5	245	8	North Carolina A&T
77	**Paris**, Bubba	T	6-6	295	5	Michigan
78	**Tuiasosopo**, Manu	NT	6-3	262	9	UCLA
79	**Fagan**, Kevin	DT	6-3	260	1	Miami
80	**Rice**, Jerry	WR	6-2	203	3	Mississippi Valley
81	**Francis**, Russ	TE	6-6	240	12	Oregon
82	**Taylor**, John	WR	6-1	185	1	Delaware State
83	**Crawford**, Derrick	WR-KR	5-10	185	2	Memphis State
84	**Margerum**, Ken	WR	6-0	180	6	Stanford
85	**Wilson**, Mike	WR	6-3	215	7	Washington State
86	**Frank**, John	TE	6-3	230	4	Ohio State
87	**Clark**, Dwight	WR	6-4	215	9	Clemson
89	**Heller**, Ron	TE	6-3	235	1	Oregon State
90	**Shell**, Todd	LB	6-4	225	3	Brigham Young
91	**Roberts**, Larry	DE	6-3	264	2	Alabama
94	**Haley**, Charles	DE	6-5	240	2	James Madison
95	**Carter**, Michael	NT	6-2	285	4	Southern Methodist
99	**Walter**, Mike	ILB	6-3	235	5	Oregon
	Young, Steve	QB	6-2	200	3	Brigham Young

49ERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	49ERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	346	285
Rushing	114	97
Passing	213	169
Penalty	19	19
3rd Down: Made/Att.	80/224	67/221
4th Down: Made/Att.	6/12	9/20
TOTAL NET YARDS	6082	4880
Avg. Per Game	380.1	305.0
Total Plays	1118	1061
Avg. Per Play	5.4	4.6
NET YARDS RUSHING	1986	1555
Avg. Per Game	124.1	97.2
Total Rushes	510	406
NET YARDS PASSING	4096	3325
Avg. Per Game	256.0	207.8
Tackled/Yards Lost	26/203	51/448
Gross Yards	4299	3773
Attempts/Completions	582/353	604/324
Pct. of Completions	60.7	53.6
Had Intercepted	20	39
PUNTS/AVERAGE	85/40.6	91/41.4
NET PUNTING AVG.	34.3	35.0
PENALTIES/YARDS	95/691	89/653
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	32/9	31/10
TOUCHDOWNS	43	29
Rushing	16	8
Passing	21	18
Returns	6	3

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
49ERS	92	123	72	87	0	374
Opp. Total	64	61	58	61	3	247

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Wersching	0-0	6-6	14-18	4-9	1-2	25-35

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Craig	204	830	4.1	25	7
Cribbs	152	590	3.9	19	5
Rathman	33	138	4.2	t29	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Rice	86	1570	18.3	t66	15
Craig	81	624	7.7	48	0
Clark	61	794	13.0	t45	2
Francis	41	505	12.3	52	1
Cribbs	35	346	9.9	33	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lott	10	134	13.4	t57	1
McKyer	6	33	5.5	t21	1
Fahnhorst	4	52	13.0	46	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Runager	83	3450	41.6	8	23	62	2

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Griffin	38	18	377	9.9	t76	1
Crawford	4	0	15	3.8	9	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Crawford	15	280	18.7	34	0
Monroe	8	139	17.4	25	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Montana	307	191	2236	62.2	7.28	8	2.6	9	2.9	48	12/95	80.7
Kemp	200	119	1554	59.5	7.77	11	5.5	8	4.0	66	8/56	85.7

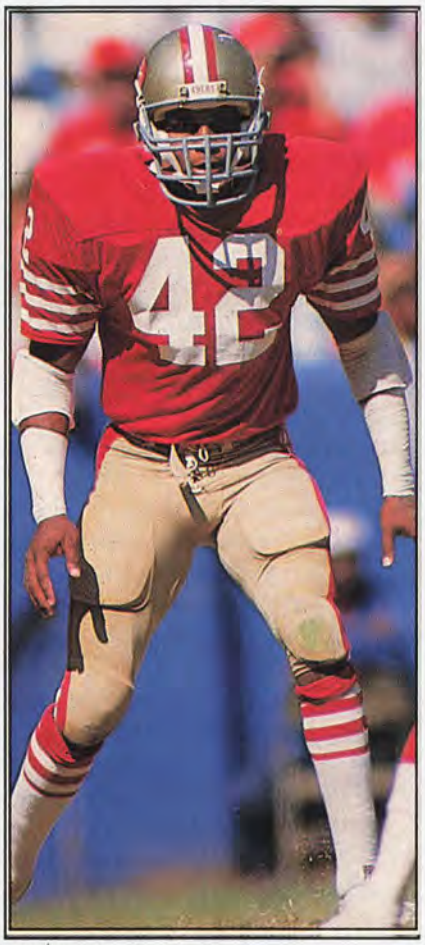
49ERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1A	Harris **BARTON** *OT*	6-4, 283	**North Carolina**	'86 first team All-ACC...started at both tackle & center...received a 93% blocking grade.
1B	Terrence **FLAGLER** *TB*	5-11, 199	**Clemson**	'86 led team in rushing with 1258 yds. on 192 carries (6.6 avg.) & 10 TD's...caught 16 passes for 188 yds. (11.8 avg.).
2	Jeff **BREGEL** *OG*	6-4, 281	**USC**	Finalist for both the Outland & Lombardi Trophies the last 2 years...'86 unanimous first team All-PAC 10...98% blocking grade on the season.
5	Paul **JOKISCH** *WR-TE*	6-7, 230	**Michigan**	'86 bothered by severe groin injury all year...caught 9 passes for 1987 yds. (21.9 avg.), with 2 for TD's...'83 started at power forward for basketball team.
6	Bob **WHITE** *DE-MLB*	6-3, 254	**Penn St.**	'86 31 tackles (23 solos), 8 sacks & 9 tackles for 54 yds. in losses...1 fmb. cau. & 2 pass deflections.
7	Steve **DeLINE** *PK*	5-11, 180	**Colorado St.**	58 yd. fg; longest...'86 first team All-WAC, 19 fg's on 24 attps...25 of 26 extra point attps.
8	David **GRAYSON** *LB*	6-3, 225	**Fresno St.**	'86...45 tackles (22 solos), 1 sack.
9	Johnathan **SHELLEY** *DB*	6-0, 184	**Mississippi**	'86 missed 5 games after "scope surgery"...35 tackles (21 solos) and 1 int.
10	John **PAYE** *QB*	6-3, 205	**Stanford**	'86 second team All-Pac 10...comp. 217 of 349 passes for 2261 yds. & 14 TD's despite a seperated shoulder that required surgery.
11	Calvin **NICHOLAS** *WR*	6-4, 203	**Grambling St.**	'86 All-SWAC Hon. Men...recovered from knee surgery...14 catches for 252 yds. & 2 TD's.

SAN FRANCISCO

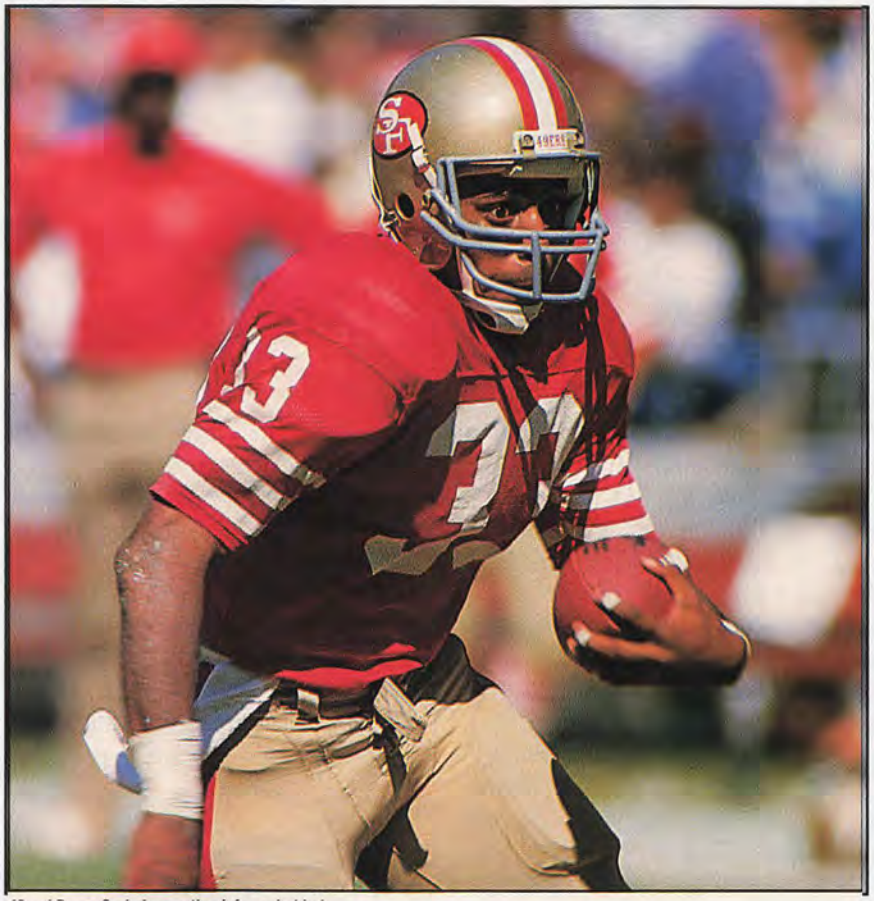
continued from page 103

stress fracture is still uncertain. He was injured in the last game of the 1985 season, attempted to come back in the fifth game of '86, and went back on injured reserve after one start, missing the rest of the year. Later, Walsh talked about phasing him back in slowly as a safety when he's ready to play again. Wright was an All-Pro cornerback before being injured.



Ronnie Lott stops deep threats

At one point during the off-season, Walsh said that the secondary was now the strength of the team. That could be true only if Don Griffin repeats his remarkable rookie season in '87 and Tim McKyer improves dramatically on his. Griffin was beaten for only three touchdowns, all in a two-game span at midyear. McKyer, who also had some moments of brilliance, was the victim



49ers' Roger Craig leaves the defense behind

of 11 TD passes, including three in the playoff loss against the Giants.

The 49ers have depth in the secondary, with backup safety Jeff Fuller considered by some to be the team's best athlete. Fuller is a hellish performer in the nickel defense.

Ray Wersching, who'll be 37 before the season starts, returns for another year as the place-kicker. For a couple of years, Walsh has talked of the need to get a stronger leg for kickoffs, but he hasn't found one yet. And the 49ers still have confidence in Wersching as an accurate pressure kicker. But the last two years he has been bedeviled by a breakdown of the blocking that has caused the 49ers to suffer 12 blocked kicks. Meanwhile Max Runager, a Philadelphia castoff in 1984, has given the 49ers their most solid punting in years.

Griffin, a sixth-round draft choice, also was an effective addition as a punt returner. He averaged 9.9 yards per return, including one for a touchdown. The 49ers suffered on kickoff returns, though, because Crawford did not perform as advertised or as he had in the USFL.

Keys to a successful season for the 49ers are getting a good year out of Montana—and keeping him healthy—and also a good year from Carter on the nose. Until the playoff collapse against the Giants, the defense had played exceptionally over a long period of time, a tribute to defensive coordinator George Seifert's strategies. But a team that's headed into a rebuilding phase needs more than just a good scheme.

In the 49ers' favor, two of their three division rivals, New Orleans and Atlanta, are perennially rebuilding, although the Saints may finally be on the right track with Jim Finks and Jim Mora heading the organization. That leaves the Rams who share, with the 49ers, the longest current streak of playoff appearances—four—in the NFL.□

LOS ANGELES RAMS

HAVE TO PASS SUCCESSFULLY TO HAVE A CHANCE

BY DON SEEHOLZER

Nine in 10 years at USC. Six in four in the NFL.

John Robinson goes through starting quarterbacks the way George Steinbrenner goes through managers, which is probably the No. 1 reason why the Los Angeles Rams, in the Robinson era, have gone only as far as Eric Dickerson could carry them.

But all that may be about to change.

In 24-year old Jim Everett, the Rams have a quarterback not only for this year but for many to come.

In Ernie Zampese, who was lured away from San Diego, they have perhaps the most respected offensive coordinator in the game.

Between the two of them, this could be the year the NFL's worst passing team two years running finally gets off the ground and into the Super Bowl.

Or so the Rams are hoping.

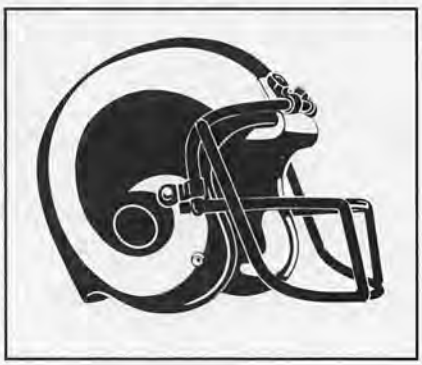
"We have to pass successfully to have a chance," Robinson said. "But we feel very positive about that. Clearly, we were deficient in that area. We were aware of a deficiency and tried to play around it. I don't think we're playing with a pair of 10's anymore."

Acquired on September 18 in a blockbuster trade with Houston, Everett certainly looked like an ace for starters, debuting spectacularly in Game 11 against New England and winning his first three NFL starts.

The rookie from Purdue played like one at times in his last three games — all losses—but with the opportunity to go through training camp for the first time and the arrival of Zampese, the Rams are confident they finally have the quarterback they've been missing.

Not that pro football's most down-to-earth team is about to abandon the run. Far from it.

Dickerson, who won his third rushing title in four seasons in 1986 with 1,821 yards, will still be a busy man. The plan simply is to be more balanced. To be able to pass as well as run, if not always



as often. To have the ball more.

"I'd like to believe we'll force people to defend more things," Robinson said. "Which will give Eric a chance to not be as much of a marked man as he's been—in terms of him being the No. 1 thing you have to stop or in some cases the only thing. I think now he's going to be high on people's list, but he certainly won't be alone."

The question, even with Everett and Dickerson, is do the Rams have enough offensive weapons to get the job done?

Henry Ellard led the team in receptions for the second straight year with 34, despite missing the first seven games in a contract dispute and not catching a pass until the 10th week of the season, which says as much about the other receivers as it does his ability.

It was another disappointing year, however, for Ron Brown, the Olympic gold medalist, who was bothered all season by a fractured bone in his left wrist and caught just 25 passes.

"I still feel Ron can do it," Robinson said, optimistically. "He's had some extenuating things to keep him down. I think we're counting him as one of the major keys to our season."

Another is the return to form of tight end Tony Hunter, the Rams' second-leading receiver two years ago, who missed the second half of last season with a shin injury.

David Hill is still one of the NFL's best blocking tight ends, but the Rams need the injury-prone Hunter's talents as a receiver, according to Robinson, who said, "I think a comeback there is important."

If the pass catchers are a question mark, there is no question about the offensive line, which placed three players in last year's Pro Bowl— center Doug Smith, right guard Dennis Harrah and right tackle Jackie Slater—and easily could have had a fourth in left tackle Irv Pankey.

No. 1 draft choice Mike Schad, an offensive tackle out of Queen's College in Canada, was a disappointment and will be tried this year at guard, but second-round pick Tom Newberry stepped right in at left guard for five-time All-Pro Kent Hill—who went to Houston in the Everett trade—and played like a future Pro Bowler.

"The thing that's great about our offensive line is it's experienced, it's

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Lansford**, Mike	K	6-0	185	6	Washington
3	**Hatcher**, Dale	P	6-2	200	3	Clemson
8	**Dils**, Steve	QB	6-1	195	9	Stanford
10	**Bartkowski**, Steve	QB	6-4	218	13	California
11	**Everett**, Jim	QB	6-5	212	2	Purdue
20	**Johnson**, Johnnie	FS	6-1	186	8	Texas
21	**Cromwell**, Nolan	SS	6-1	198	10	Kansas
22	**Newsome**, Vince	FS	6-1	179	5	Washington
25	**Gray**, Jerry	CB	6-0	185	3	Texas
29	**Dickerson**, Eric	RB	6-3	223	5	SMU
30	**Redden**, Barry	RB	5-10	205	6	Richmond
32	**Tyrrell**, Tim	RB	6-1	201	4	Northern Illinois
33	**White**, Charles	RB	5-10	190	7	USC
44	**Guman**, Mike	RB	6-2	218	8	Penn State
45	**Long**, Darren	TE	6-3	240	2	Cal St. Long Beach
46	**Edwards**, Herman	CB	6-0	190	11	San Diego State
47	**Irvin**, LeRoy	CB	5-11	184	8	Kansas
48	**Fox**, Tim	SS	5-11	190	12	Ohio State
49	**Sutton**, Mickey	CB	5-8	165	2	Montana
50	**Collins**, Jim	LB	6-2	235	7	Syracuse
51	**Vann**, Norwood	OLB	6-1	225	4	East Carolina
52	**Thrift**, Cliff	LB	6-2	235	8	E. Central Okla.
54	**Wilcher**, Mike	OLB	6-3	240	5	North Carolina
55	**Ekern**, Carl	ILB	6-3	230	11	San Jose State
56	**Smith**, Doug	C	6-3	255	10	Bowling Green
57	**Laughlin**, Jim	ILB	6-1	218	8	Ohio State
58	**Owens**, Mel	OLB	6-2	224	7	Michigan
59	**Jerue**, Mark	ILB	6-3	229	5	Washington
60	**Harrah**, Dennis	G	6-5	270	13	Miami
61	**Slaton**, Tony	C	6-4	270	4	USC
64	**Cox**, Rober	T	6-5	258	2	UCLA
66	**Newberry**, Tom	G	6-2	279	2	Wisconsin-La Crosse
67	**Love**, Duval	G	6-3	265	3	UCLA
69	**Meiser**, Greg	NT	6-3	253	7	Pittsburgh
70	**DeJurnett**, Charles	NT	6-4	260	11	San Jose State
71	**Doss**, Reggie	DE	6-4	267	10	Hampton Institute
75	**Pankey**, Irv	T	6-4	267	7	Penn State
76	**Schad**, Mike	T	6-5	290	2	Queens's Univ.
77	**Jeter**, Gary	DE	6-4	260	11	USC
78	**Slater**, Jackie	T	6-4	271	12	Jackson State
80	**Ellard**, Henry	WR	5-11	175	4	Fresno State
81	**Hill**, David	TE	6-2	240	12	Texas A&T
82	**Duckworth**, Bobby	WR	6-3	193	6	Arkansas
83	**House**, Kevin	LB	6-1	185	7	Southern Illinois
84	**Scott**, Chuck	WR	6-2	202	2	Vanderbilt
86	**Johnson**, Damone	TE	6-4	230	2	Cal Poly
87	**Hunter**, Tony	TE	6-4	235	5	Notre Dame
88	**Young**, Mike	WR	6-1	185	3	UCLA
89	**Brown**, Ron	WR	5-11	181	4	Arizona State
90	**McDonald**, Mike	LB	6-1	230	3	USC
91	**Greene**, Kevin	OLB	6-3	238	3	Auburn
93	**Reed**, Doug	DE	6-3	265	4	San Diego State
97	**Schamel**, Duke	LB	6-2	220	2	South Dakota
98	**Miller**, Shawn	DE	6-4	253	4	Utah State
99	**Wright**, Alvin	NT	6-2	285	2	Jacksonville St.

RAMS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	RAMS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	269	272
Rushing	139	93
Passing	105	169
Penalty	25	10
3rd Down: Made/Att.	74/222	70/226
4th Down: Made/Att.	3/8	8/17
TOTAL NET YARDS	4653	4871
Avg. Per Game	290.8	304.4
Total Plays	1008	1038
Avg. Per Play	4.6	4.7
NET YARDS RUSHING	2457	1681
Avg. Per Game	153.6	105.1
Total Rushes	578	460
NET YARDS PASSING	2196	3190
Avg. Per Game	137.3	199.4
Tackled/Yards Lost	27/184	39/292
Gross Yards	2380	3482
Attempts/Completions	403/194	539/313
Pct. of Completions	48.1	58.1
Had Intercepted	15	28
PUNTS/AVERAGE	98/38.2	96/41.4
NET PUNTING AVG.	32.9	36.2
PENALTIES/YARDS	84/603	92/804
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	39/22	25/15
TOUCHDOWNS	37	28
Rushing	16	9
Passing	15	17
Returns	6	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
RAMS	59	98	72	74	6	309
Opp. Total	46	87	72	56	6	267

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Lansford	1-1	5-6	6-9	4-6	1-2	17-24

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Dickerson	404	1821	4.5	42t	11
Redden	110	467	4.2	41t	4
White	22	126	5.7	19	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ellard	34	447	13.1	34	4
Redden	28	217	7.8	24	1
Dickerson	26	205	7.9	28	0
Brown	25	396	15.8	65t	3
Hunter	15	206	13.7	42	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Gray	8	101	12.6	28	0
Irvin	6	150	25.0	50t	1
Cromwell	5	101	20.2	80t	1

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Hatcher	97	3740	38.6	5	26	57	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ellard	14	11	127	9.1	20	0
Sutton	28	5	234	8.4	32	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Brown	36	794	22.1	55	0
White	12	216	18.0	37	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Everett	147	73	1018	49.7	6.93	8	5.4	8	5.4	60t	8/50	67.8
Dils	129	59	693	45.7	5.37	4	3.1	4	3.1	65t	7/44	60.0

solid, but it also has good depth,'' said Robinson.

''We've got three players over 30 in Harrah (34), Slater (33), and Smith (30), but they're all healthy.''

Next to an improved passing game, the Rams' biggest priority is shoring up a defense that ranked No. 1 in the league midway through the season but was shredded for seven touchdown passes in regular-season-ending losses to Miami (37-31) and San Francisco (24-14).

''I think the big issue with us is can we put pressure on the quarterback?'' Robinson said, pointing to his team's 39 sacks.

''We need a pass rusher. We need depth at corner and at safety and I think we need some help in the nose tackle area.''

One place the Rams won't need any help is inside linebacker—if Jim Collins can come all the way back from the shoulder injury that kept him out all last season and Steve Busick is fully recovered following knee surgery.

Mark Jerue did a capable job filling Collins' shoes and Carl Ekern made the Pro Bowl for the first time in his 10-year career, an honor that Robinson said was much deserved.

Mel Owens had another steady season at left outside linebacker, but Mike Wilcher dropped off on the right side from 97 tackles and 12 1/2 sacks in 1985 to 68 and 5 1/2 in '86.

''I think the big thing with Mike is he has to realize what he can be,'' Robinson said.

''He played solid football last year. I think he has the potential to be a dominating player and that potential has yet to be reached. For us, Mike has to go from young, good player with a bright future to now. He's got to get up there in that category with the Chip Banks and Lawrence Taylors and Rickey Jacksons and he has to do that this year.''

The Rams suffered what looked to be a major loss in training camp last summer when a neck injury ended the career of veteran cornerback Gary Green, but second-year man Jerry Gray stepped in and made the Pro Bowl, as right cornerback LeRoy Irvin did for the second straight year.

The situation is less clear at safety, where the Rams have three starters—rising star Vince Newsome and veterans Johnnie Johnson and Nolan Cromwell—competing for two positions.

''I kind of like where we are there,'' Robinson said. ''I'd rather have three guys for two positions than two.''

With the exception of kicker Mike Lansford, who enjoyed another solid season, 1986 was not a good year for the Rams' special teams, particularly punter Dale Hatcher, whose average plummeted from 43.2 yards as a rookie to 38.6.

Robinson is counting on a return to form in '87.

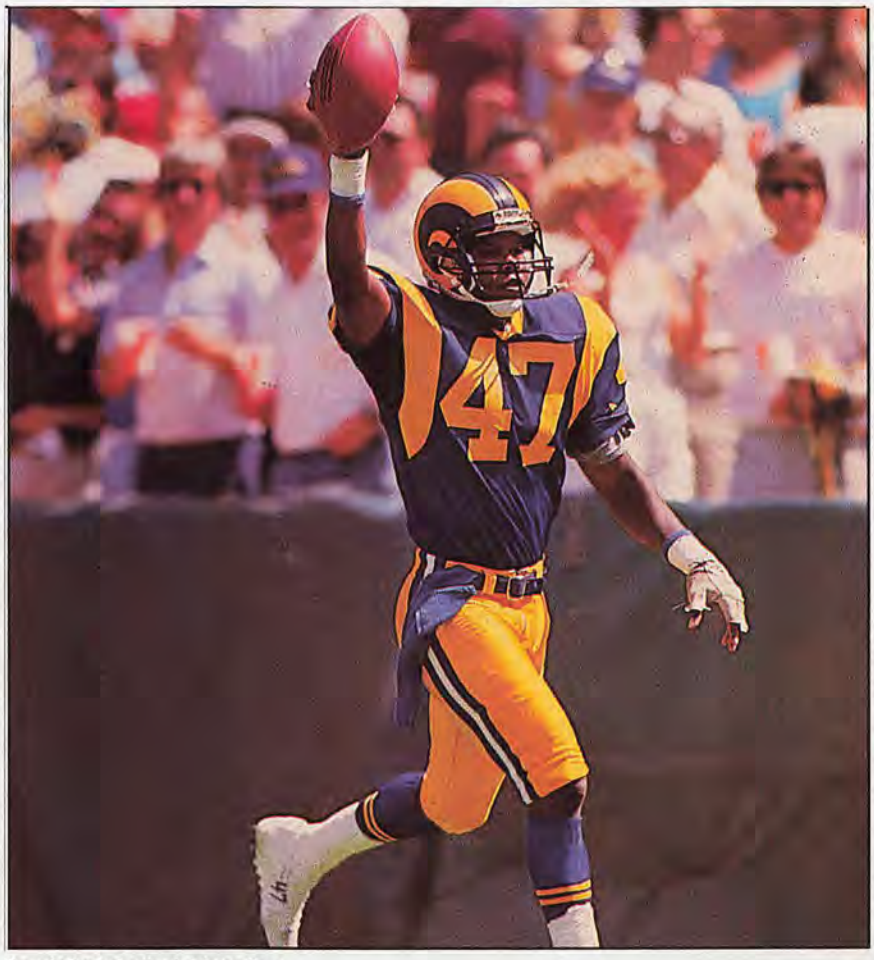
''When the natural starts messing up, it's a struggle,'' he said. ''I'm going on the assumption we've got a really good punter.''

And a pretty good team, last year's unhappy ending aside.

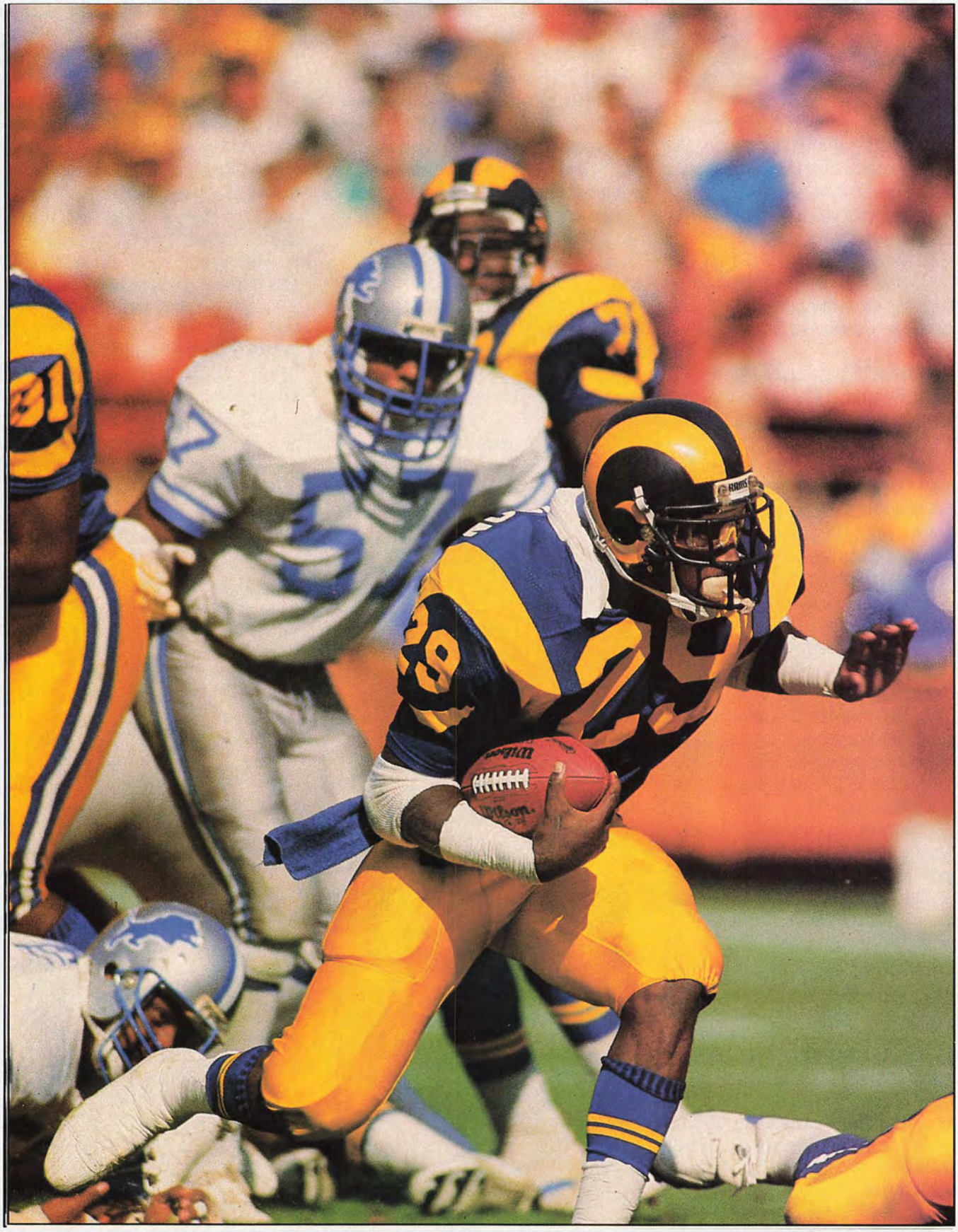
The Rams had improved their record and their standing every year under Robinson until then, when they dropped their last three games— including a 19-7 wild card loss in Washington—blowing the NFC West title and finishing 10-7. In that sense, it was a step backward for the Rams and Robinson, who never before had lost three straight games, college or pro. But it may have been a necessary step on the road to the Super Bowl.

''I feel confident, really,'' Robinson said.

''We've just got to do it. The fact remains that we didn't coach or play well enough to be the champion last year. Not a single player on our team can absolve himself from only winning 10 games and only being a wild card team. If we're going to make the move upward, we've just got to do it.''□



Rams LeRoy Irvin attracts interceptions



RAMS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
2	Donald **EVANS** *DE-ILB*	6-2, 267	**Winston-Salem**	'86 All-CIAA first team selection...63 tackles (28 solos)...10 sacks & 14 tackles for 58 yds. in losses.
3	Clifford **HICKS** *CB*	5-10, 183	**Oregon**	'86 missed 3 games from leg injury...25 tackles (19 solos), 1 fmb. rec, 5 deflected passes, 2 int's.
4A	Doug **BARTLETT** *NG-DT*	6-2, 250	**No. Illinois**	'86 missed time with an ankle injury...Only started 3 games...30 tackles (21 solos), 4 sacks & 7 tackles for 33 yds. in losses.
4B	Larry **KELM** *ILB*	6-4, 226	**Texas A&M**	'86 second team All-SWC...118 tackles (72 solos)...2 fmb. rec., 5 pass deflections, 3 sacks, 3 tackles for 5 yds. in losses.
5	Scott **MERSEREAU** *DT*	6-4, 275	**So. Connecticut**	'86 All New England, 71 tackles (47 solos), 8 sacks, 3 fmb. rec.
6	Jon **EMBREE** *TE*	6-2, 230	**Colorado**	'86 used mostly as a blocker, only catching 8 passes for 153 yds. (19.1 avg.)...father, John played for the Denver Broncos.
8	Michael **STEWART** *SS*	5-11, 195	**Fresno St.**	'86 All-PCAA...59 tackles (33 solos), 5 int's, 8 pass deflections, & blked a kick & a punt.
9	Tracey **HAM** *RB*	5-11, 187	**Georgia Southern**	Only player in NCAA history to rush for over 3000 yds. & pass for over 5000 yds. in a career...'86 numerous All-American honors...comp. 134 of 243 passes (55.1%) for 2495 yds. & 13 TD's.
10	David **SMITH** *LB*	6-7, 235	**No. Arizona**	'86...52 tackles (26 solos), 9 sacks, 1 fmb. rec., 2 deflections.
12A	Alonzo **WILLIAMS** *RB*	5-10, 180	**Mesa College**	'86 NAIA All-American, rushed for 1,495 yds. on 196 carries for 15 TD's.
12B	Fred **STOKES** *OL*	6-4, 262	**Georgia Southern**	'86 played O.T., bench presses 350, runs 4.9-40, projected as a DE in NFL.

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

LIGHT AT THE END OF THE TUNNEL

BY JIMMY SMITH

Is there light at the end of the tunnel after 20 non winning seasons?

Saints coach Jim Mora won't exactly come out and say it, but read between the lines of his thoughts.

"Talent-wise," Mora says, "we have a better football team than we did last year. There's no doubt in my mind, that on paper, we're a better football team."

Note Mora did not say the oft-maligned Saints, the least successful franchise in National Football League history, are on the verge of accomplishing that all-important winning season.

Nevertheless, there's reason for Mora's optimism, not the least of which is Mora himself.

Mora instilled in the Saints a new work-ethic last year and at one point, players actually lived in fear of Mora's wrath.

"We're all business," said free safety Frank Wattelet. "We expect to go out and produce. If we don't, he (Mora) will go out and find someone else who will."

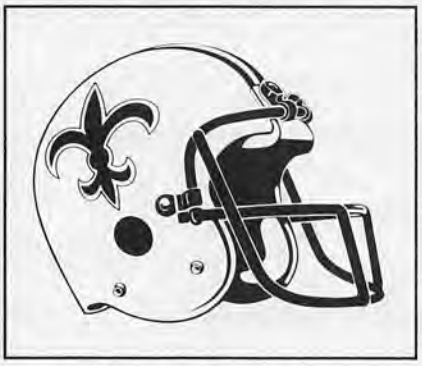
In his first year as an NFL coach, Mora guided the Saints to a 7-9 record, only the third time that happened in the club's 20-year existence. Along the way, Mora also tied Dick Nolan with the best record by a first year coach.

Nolan followed a 7-9 1978 with an 8-8 1979. But the Saints of that era had an established quarterback, Archie Manning, and a solid offensive unit comprised of Chuck Muncie, Tony Galbreath and Wes Chandler, while the defense was somewhat suspect.

The Saints, circa 1987, are a team of question marks offensively, while the defense appears to be a unit on the rise league-wide, but one that could improve in certain areas.

First of all, the greatest question, offensively, is the man under center: who will be the quarterback in 1987?

Strong armed Bobby Hebert was the starter in 1986. For two games.



On the Saints first series of downs in the season's third game against the San Francisco 49'ers at Candlestick Park, Saints rookie offensive tackle Jim Dombrowski, the club's No. 1 draft choice in 1986, missed a block on San Francisco rookie linebacker Charles Haley.

Haley blind-sided Hebert as Hebert was attempting to pass. Hebert's foot remained planted in the Candlestick turf, and Hebert broke the fifth metatarsal bone in his right foot.

Hebert did not play again until the last regular season game at Minnesota, when his replacement, Dave Wilson, strained his left knee.

Later in the 49'ers game, Dombrowski left with a broken foot, the fifth metatarsal on his right foot. He did not play again the rest of the season. Wilson did an admirable, if not spectacular, job relieving Hebert, the $5 million Cajan.

Wilson was the second-lowest-rated quarterback in the NFL (65.8), behind only Tampa Bay's Steve Young.

Wilson threw just 10 touchdown passes to 17 interceptions, completing 55 percent of his passes. His percentage of interceptions, 5.0. was fourth-worst in the NFL behind the Raiders' Marc Wilson (6.3), Houston's Warren Moon (5.3) and San Diego's Dan Fouts (5.1).

Still, the Saints responded to Wilson, a six-year NFL veteran. Wilson was 6-6 as the Saints' starter, and during the middle of the season, when Hebert was ready to be activated off injured reserve, Mora went so far as to tell CBS football analyst John Madden the team had more confidence in Wilson than Hebert.

At the outset of his relief role, Wilson said he was nothing more than a fill-in, waiting for Hebert to heal and return to the starting job.

When the Saints went on a mini-roll in mid-season, winning five of six games to go 6-5, Wilson, who underwent corrective rotator cuff surgery on his throwing shoulder in January 1985, laid claim to the starting job.

"These people (Mora and his staff) gave me a fair shot," Wilson said. "And I've proven myself to them. Proven that I can play."

In fact, some of Wilson's teammates finally saw him grow into the job.

"I have more confidence in him than ever before," said right offensive tackle Stan Brock. "He's a smarter quarterback, he's more poised. He's got more

experience. Things don't rattle him like they used to. But when you need to be shaken up in the huddle, he's there. I like that.''

Try as he might, Wilson couldn't shake the Saints up quite enough for that winning season. So look for another hotly contested training camp quarterback race between Hebert and Wilson in 1987.

The 1986 Saints' offense was relying on the legs of consensus NFL rookie of the year Rueben Mayes.

Mayes, a third-round draft choice from Washington State, rushed for 1,353 yards, a 4.7 per-carry average and eight touchdowns.

Mayes was the 57th player selected in the 1986 draft and 12 running backs were chosen before him, including Saints' second-round pick Dalton Hilliard, whose 425 yards translated into a major disapointment.

Mayes' astounding rookie season - he played the entire year on a frayed left Achilles tendon that required corrective surgery immediately after the season - moved some of the league's most respected player personnel people to second-guess themselves.

''I wish we could draft over,'' said Dallas Cowboys' personnel director Gil Brandt. ''We're really pleased with our second-round pick (running back Darryl Clack), but obviously the Saints made a hell of a steal in the third round. It will go down in history as one of the great all-time picks.''

Saints' fans seem to think so.

Mayes should be fully recovered from his off-season surgery by the time the Saints reach training camp.

At fullback, there is concern.

Hokie Gajan, a fan favorite and the Saints' starter from 1983-85, is attempting a comeback from a devastating knee injury. Three of the four ligaments in Gajon's right knee were shredded Nov. 10, 1985 against Seattle. He has not played since.

Buford Jordan, signed last year as a free agent, filled in quite well, but he's a converted tailback.

''We'd like a fullback who can block, run and catch,'' Mora said. ''Right now, our guys can't do all thoses things together.''

Wide receiver is another problem area. Wilson's ineffective statistics could be attributed as much to the people he was throwing to as to Wilson himself.

Don't be surprised if Eugene Goodlow, a starter from 1983 through the beginning of 1986, is gone by the time the season opens.

The Saints don't possess any deep threats at wide out, but if Wilson is the quarterback, that problem becomes moot because Wilson doesn't have the arm strength to throw deep.

If Hebert is the quarterback, he'll be ineffective without any deep threat. In the USFL, Hebert had the deep speed of Anthony Carter, now with the Vikings. Mike Jones, obtained in a trade with the Vikings last season, was the Saints' leading receiver in 1986 with 48 receptions. Jones showed the ability to break open and hold on to the football while absorbing a blow. Eric Martin was a puzzling inconsistency most of the season while Kelvin Edwards was somewhat of a disappointment. Mora and the staff like Hebert Harris, a USFL expatriate who played with Mora's Philadelphia Stars.

Tight end is solid with John Tice (37 catches, 3 touchdowns) and Hoby Brenner (18 catches).

The offensive line could be another question mark in 1987, depending on some injury rehabilitation.

Brock, for one, is coming off delicate off-season back surgery, much the same procedure performed early last season on 49'ers quarterback Joe Montana.

Right guard Ralph Williams sustained a knee injury in week six against Indianapolis and was out for the rest of the season.

Center Steve Korte was hampered by a bad back, and left guard Brad Edelman missed time with injury.

If there was a saving grace for the Saints, it was offensive line depth. Joel Hilgenberg filled in at center and guard, while Chuck Commisskey and Bill Contz, two free agents, subbed for Williams and Dombrowski.

Defensively, the Saints are a solid bunch, but not so solid that there's no room for improvement.

''I'd say the two biggest areas for improvement are defensive backs and wide receivers,'' Mora said. ''There's a premium on cornerbacks, people who can cover other people. We have to do a better job of covering people.''

In 1986 the Saints ranked 14th in the NFL in total defense— right at the middle of the pack. But the pass defense ranked 21st of 28 teams.

There was inconsistency on the corners.

While left cornerback Dave Waymer had nine interceptions - second-best in the NFC - he was also burned for crucial passes. Johnnie Poe, the right cornerback, started off fast, but tailed off near the end of the season. The Saints allowed 197 first downs passing, third-highest in the NFL in 1986. New Orleans also allowed opponents 3,543 yards passing and 21 passing touchdowns.

Against the rush, the Saints were one of the NFL's best, ranking fourth in stopping the run. New Orleans gave up just 1,559 yards all season, a 97.4 per-game average.

Part of the reason for that stout run defense was a solid linebacker corp that was helped immeasurably by former USFL player Sam Mills, who played for Mora in Philadelphia.

Mills, at 5-9 3/4, is the shortest inside linebacker in the NFL, but he was a demon against the run in 1986. Alvin Toles, 1985's No. 1 draft choice, improved immeasurably in 1986 and started most of the year.

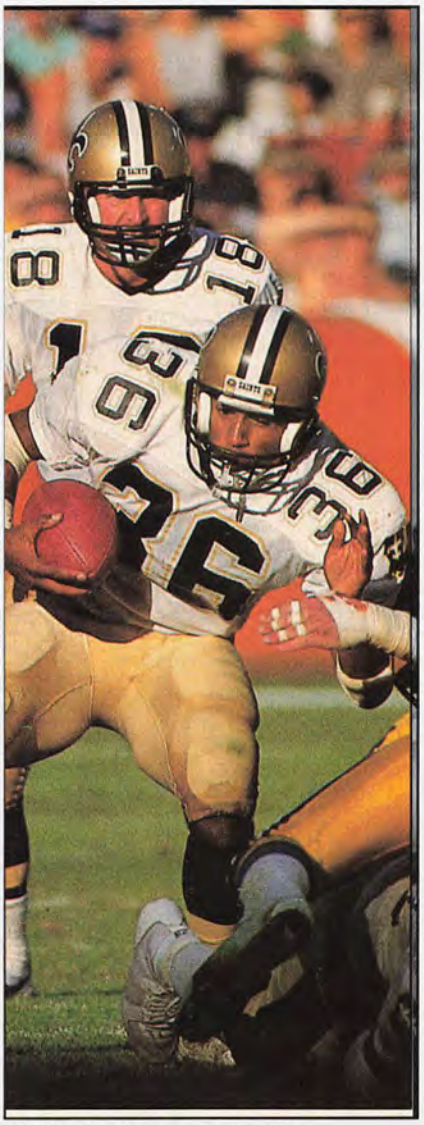
On the outside, James Haynes, a former free agent, was a real surprise playing opposite All-Pro selection Rickey Jackson (9 sacks).

The Saints had plenty of quality linebacker depth, too, both inside and out, prompting Mora to claim that upgrading his linebacker depth was a very low priority.

The defensive line is anchored by left end Bruce Clark, who played most of the

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Hebert**, Bobby	QB	6-4	215	2	Northwestern La.
7	**Andersen**, Morten	K	6-2	221	5	Michigan State
10	**Hansen**, Brian	P	6-2	209	3	Sioux Falls
18	**Wilson**, Dave	QB	6-3	206	5	Illinois
23	**Jordan**, Buford	FB	6-0	223	1	McNeese State
25	**Poe**, Johnnie	CB	6-1	194	6	Missouri
27	**Gibson**, Antonio	SS	6-3	204	1	Cincinnati
36	**Mayes**, Rueben	HB	5-11	200	1	Washington State
37	**Gray**, Mel	HB	5-9	166	1	Purdue
39	**Maxie**, Brett	FS	6-2	194	2	Texas Southern
40	**Hilliard**, Dalton	HB	5-8	204	1	Louisiana State
44	**Waymer**, Dave	CB	6-1	188	7	Notre Dame
49	**Wattelet**, Frank	FS	6-0	186	6	Kansas
50	**Del Rio**, Jack	LB	6-4	238	2	USC
53	**Johnson**, Vaughn	LB	6-3	235	1	North Carolina State
54	**Toles**, Alvin	LB	6-1	227	2	Tennessee
55	**Kohlbrand**, Joe	LB	6-4	242	2	Miami
56	**Swilling**, Pat	LB	6-4	235	1	Georgia Tech
57	**Jackson**, Rickey	LB	6-2	243	6	Pittsburgh
60	**Korte**, Steve	C	6-2	269	4	Arkansas
61	**Hilgenburg**, Joel	C-G	6-3	252	3	Iowa
63	**Edelman**, Brad	G	6-6	270	5	Missouri
66	**Commiskey**, Chuck	G	6-4	290	1	Mississippi
67	**Brock**, Stan	T	6-6	292	7	Colorado
68	**Saindon**, Pat	G	6-3	273	1	Vanderbilt
70	**Contz**, Bill	T	6-5	270	4	Penn State
73	**Warren**, Frank	DE	6-4	290	6	Auburn
75	**Clark**, Bruce	DE	6-3	274	5	Penn State
77	**Gilbert**, Daren	T	6-6	295	2	Cal State-Fullerton
82	**Tice**, John	TE	6-5	249	4	Maryland
83	**Edwards**, Kelvin	WR	6-2	197	1	Liberty Baptist
84	**Martin**, Eric	WR	6-1	207	2	Louisiana State
85	**Brenner**, Hoby	TE	6-4	245	6	USC
86	**Jones**, Mike	WR	5-11	183	4	Tennessee State
88	**Goodlow**, Eugene	WR	6-2	186	4	Kansas State
92	**Haynes**, James	LB	6-2	233	3	Mississippi Valley
94	**Wilks**, Jim	DE	6-5	266	6	San Diego State
96	**Andrus**, Sheldon	NT	6-1	271	1	Nicholls State
97	**Geathers**, James	DE	6-7	290	3	Wichita State



Saints' Rueben Mayes makes great strides

season with torn knee cartilage. Clark, nevertheless, had six sacks. Vastly improved James Geathers played on the right side and tied Jackson for the sack leadership with nine.

At nose tackle, the play of Tony Elliott was at times inconsistent, but Frank Warren, playing both inside and out, had 8.5 sacks.

Pat Swilling, a third-round draft choice in 1986, played both outside linebacker and defensive end in pass rushing situations. Swilling finished with four sacks.

The Saints enjoy one of the finest kicking games in the league.

When place kicker Morten Anderson hits his next three field-goal attempts, he will become the most accurate place kicker in NFL history. Anderson needs three attempts to reach the 100 attempt mark, which will qualify him for the honor. Anderson has hit over 80 percent of his career field goals. Perhaps that accounts for his league-leading $300,000 base salary.

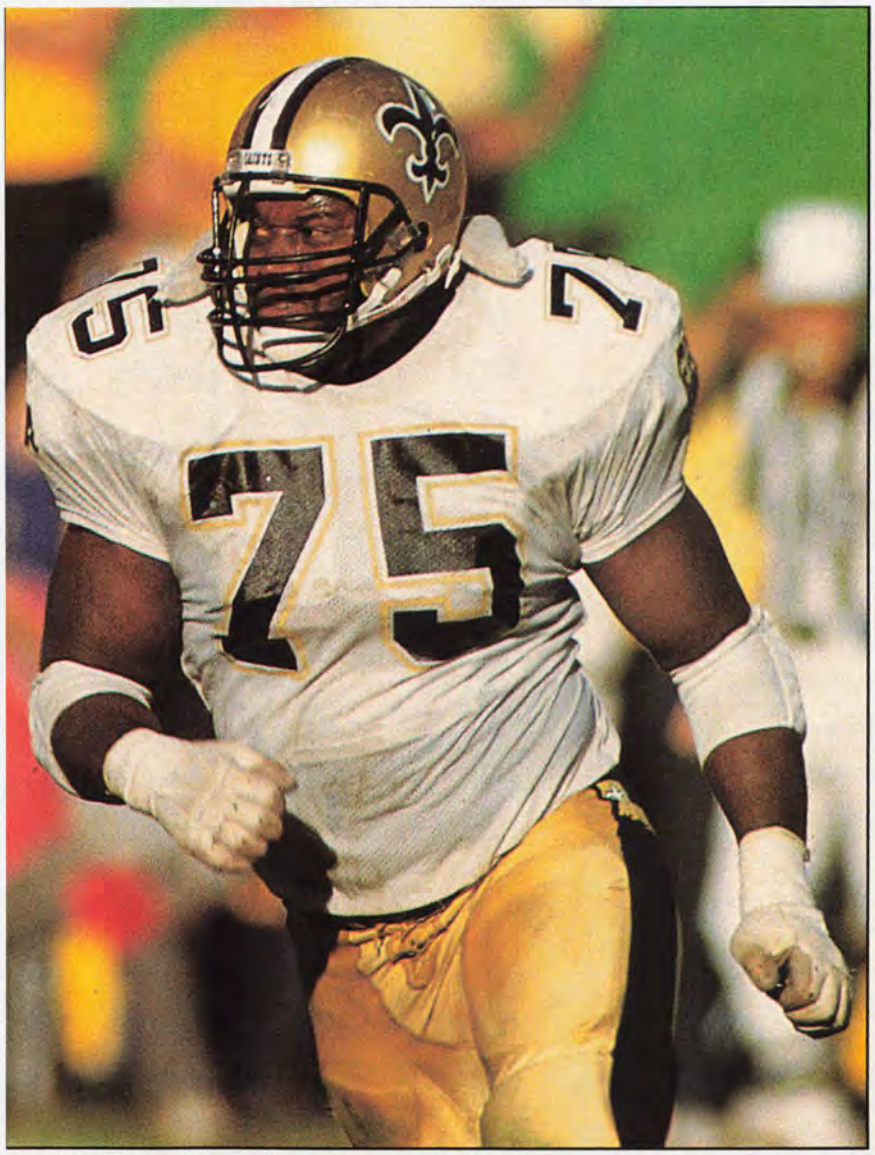
Anderson played in the Pro Bowl for the second consecutive year, scoring 108 points and hitting 26 of 30 field-goal attempts, the best average in the NFC. He was also perfect on 30 point-after attempts.

Punter Brian Hansen tailed off toward the end of the season, but still maintained a 42.7 average and a net of 36.6, third-best in the conference. Kick returner Mel Gray, a Saints' USFL supplemental draft choice in 1984, had the longest return of the year in 1986, a 101-yarder against the San Francisco 49'ers. Gray had a 27.9 per-return average, second-best in the NFC.

All things considered, the Saints may contend in 1987, given the proper breaks. And while Mora feels more confident with his talent, he knows there's still room for improvement.

"There's not a position on our team we couldn't improve with a good football player," Mora said.

So there's light at the end of the tunnel, if only a glimmer.□



New Orleans' Bruce Clark has game face on as he moves in on action

SAINTS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	SAINTS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	275	331
Rushing	109	104
Passing	137	197
Penalty	29	30
3rd Down: Made/Att.	59/197	97/230
4th Down: Made/Att.	7/13	7/14
TOTAL NET YARDS	4742	5102
Avg. Per Game	296.4	318.9
Total Plays	957	1109
Avg. Per Play	5.0	4.6
NET YARDS RUSHING	2074	1559
Avg. Per Game	129.6	97.4
Total Rushes	505	486
NET YARDS PASSING	2668	3543
Avg. Per Game	166.8	221.4
Tackled/Yards Lost	27/225	47/343
Gross Yards	2893	3886
Attempts/Completions	425/232	576/331
Pct. of Completions	54.6	57.5
Had Intercepted	25	26
PUNTS/AVERAGE	82/42.1	78/42.5
NET PUNTING AVG.	36.6	35.6
PENALTIES/YARDS	109/855	104/791
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	33/18	37/17
TOUCHDOWNS	30	34
Rushing	15	11
Passing	13	21
Returns	2	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
SAINTS TOTAL	81	62	47	98	0	288
Opp. Total	64	92	71	60	0	287

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Andersen	1-1	11-11	6-7	6-6	2-5	26-30

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mayes	286	1353	4.7	50	8
Hilliard	121	425	3.5	36	5
Jordan	68	207	3.0	10	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Jones	48	625	13.0	45	3
Martin	37	675	18.2	84	5
Tice	37	330	8.9	29t	3
Goodlow	20	306	15.3	29t	2
Brenner	18	286	15.9	34	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Waymer	9	48	5.3	17	0
Poe	4	42	10.5	30	0
Wattelet	3	34	11.3	22	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Hansen	81	3456	42.7	11	17	66	1

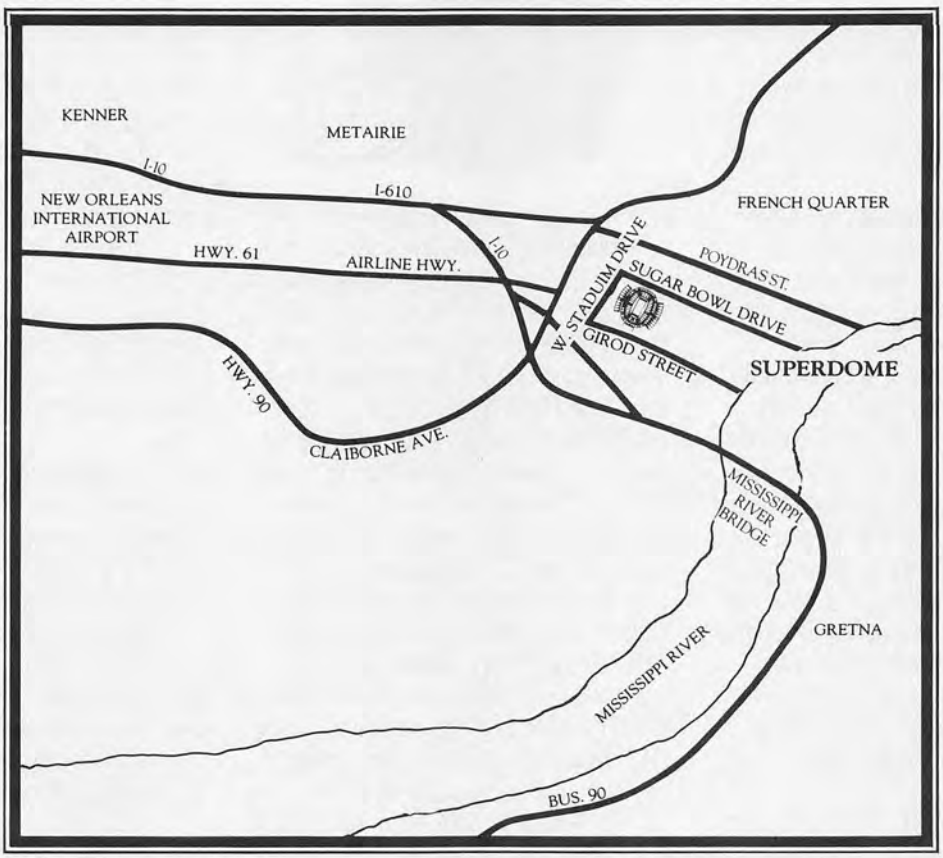
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Martin	24	9	227	9.5	39	0
McLemore	10	3	67	6.7	23	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Gray	31	866	27.9	101t	1
Mayes	10	213	21.3	34	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
D.Wilson	342	189	2353	55.3	6.88	10	2.9	17	5.0	63t	22/191	65.8
Hebert	79	41	498	51.9	6.30	2	2.5	8	10.1	84	5/34	40.5

SAINTS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Shawn **KNIGHT** *DT*	6-6, 288	**Brigham Young**	'86 first team All-WAC...64 tackles (27 solos), 16 sacks.
2	Lonzell **HILL** *WR-KR*	5-11, 189	**Washington**	Father, J.D. Hill was a standout for Buffalo Bills..'86 first team All PAC 10..led the team in recpts. with 43 catches for 721 yds. (16.8 avg.).
3	Michael **ADAMS** *CB*	5-10, 195	**Arkansas St.**	'86 All-Southland Conference...34 tackles (31 solos)...2 fmb's. cau. & 3 fmb. rec's...5 deflected passes and 5 int's.
4	Steve **TRAPILO** *OG-T*	6-5, 281	**Boston College**	Able to bench press over 450 lbs...set school record on the hip sled at 930 lbs...'86 first team All-ECAC & All-East...received a 94% blocking grade on the year.
5	Milton **MACK** *CB*	5-11, 182	**Alcorn St.**	'86 All-SWAC...44 tackles (28 solos)...7 pass deflections, 1 fmb. rec.
6	Thomas **HENLEY** *WR-KR*	5-10, 173	**Stanford**	'86...28 catches for 431 yds. (15.4 avg.) $ 2 TD's...led team with 14 kickoff returns for 292 yds.
7	Gene **ATKINS** *SS*	6-1, 200	**Florida A&M**	'86 All-American...67 tackles (48 solos), 10 pass deflections, 4 int's.
8	Toi **COOK** *CB*	5-11, 188	**Stanford**	'86 second team All-Pac 10...7 int's...27 tackles (17 solos) & 8 pass deflections.
9	Scott **LEACH** *LB*	6-3, 221	**Ohio St.**	'86...63 tackles (24 solos), 1 sack, 1 fmb. cau., 1 fmb. rec, 4 pass deflections.
10	Robert **CLARK** *WR*	5-11, 175	**No. Carolina Central**	Consensus All- American & All-CIAA...led team with 56 recpts. for 115 yds. (20.6 avg.) & in scoring with 80 points.
11	Arthur **WELLS** *TE*	6-4, 236	**Grambling St.**	'86 first team All-SWAC...second on the team with 36 catches for 594 yds. (16.5 avg.) & 3 TD's.
12	Tyrone **SORRELLS** *OT*	6-3, 255	**Georgia Tech**	'86 started every game, part of a line which helped team rush for 210.2 yds. per game.



ATLANTA FALCONS

FALCONS LOOK FOR BETTER DAYS BEHIND CAMPBELL

BY GLENN SHEELEY

Their critics have questioned the move to appoint Marion Campbell head coach after the firing of Dan Henning. Maybe they're missing the point.

Hey, why not a "Swamp Fox" to lead the Atlanta Falcons? For the last seven seasons, it's been a team so bogged down that you have to wonder whether Jacksonville, Fla., officials desire to move it to the Everglades.

So here the Falcons are in 1987, hoping that the man who last year solidified their defense—from 25th in the NFL to seventh—can somehow assemble the act of an offense that began the year as a terror and ended it as a horror show. The Supreme irony is that Falcons owner Rankin Smith, Sr., is the same man who fired Campbell as Atlanta's head coach in 1976.

"That was a different time," says Campbell. "That's over. It's in the past." What's barely in the past is the Falcons' inconsistent path of 1986. After back-to-back 4-12 seasons, they stunned the NFL with a 4-0 start. But before things got too giddy, though, normalcy returned. The same team that beat Dallas and Miami on the road—notable accomplishments despite down years there—suffered the ultimate embarrassment in Atlanta by allowing 0-13 Indianapolis its first win. The following week, a desperate coach Dan Henning advised his team not to speak with the media and instead to do its talking on the field. In muzzled fashion, the Falcons then lost to New Orleans at home.

The Falcons finished 7-8-1 and Henning finished up as head coach after assembling a four-year record of 22-41-1. Although Henning had to answer for his failure to draft a big-time quarterback and his from-day-one decision to implement the one-back offense he brought from Washington, an unquestionably sound decision brought in Campbell and his defensive staff for 1986 immediately after they were jettisoned by Philadelphia.

Although Campbell obviously was not the Falcons' first choice—the Smiths spend an embarrassing six weeks being turned down by ex-Eagles coach Dick Vermeil and UCLA's Terry Donahue and then flirted with New York Giants coach Bill Parcells—one big asset was the respect he commanded throughout the NFL and his ability to hire respected people. Hurrying to assemble a staff in early February, Campbell was able to sign up fired Indianapolis coach Rod Dohwer as offensive coordiantor and ex-St. Louis boss Jim Hanifan as his assistant head coach for offense and line specialist. He retained Steve Crosby from Henning's staff to coach running backs and picked up Jimmy Raye, a former Atlanta Coach, from Tampa Bay to school receivers. As a result, Campbell enters the first year of his second Atlanta tenure with something Henning chose not to emphasize on his staff—NFL experience.

None of it will be wasted because the Falcons, who haven't made the playoffs since the 1982 Super Bowl tournament (5-4 finish), came into the season with goals such as: —Reviving an offense that averaged 17.5 points per week and often was little more than running back Gerald Riggs (343 carries, 1,327 yards). —Protecting quarterbacks more efficiently than last year, when David Archer and Turk Schonert were dumped 56 times. —Jazzing up a passing game that produced 161.43 yards per week. —On defense, despite the gains, getting to the quarterback more frequently. The 26 sacks by the Falcons last year was third-lowest in the NFL.

There will be changes on offense. Both Dowhower and Hanifan like the shotgun formation and will use it. They are also both from the two-back offense school and will combine it with the one-back approach at a yet undetermined ratio.

"Even though you might like something else," said Campbell "we're not going to abandon something that has worked, and that's taking the ball and running it with Gerald."

Much of the offensive success likely depends on what the Falcons do with their quarterback situation, which has been unsettled ever since surgeons started removing cartilage from Steve Bartkowski's knee in the late 1970's.

David Archer, the fourth-year former

free agent from Iowa State who replaced Bartkowski midway through the 1985 season, is coming off a shoulder separation that kept him out of the final five games of last season. Archer, who has more moxie than throwing ability, was his most dangerous when he left the pocket, running 58 times for 298 yards. Improving from the previous year, when he was last among NFC quarterbacks, Archer threw for 2,007 yards with 10 touchdowns passes and nine interceptions, but many feel his arm is not consistently strong enough to stretch opposing defenses sufficently.

Schonert, who replaced Archer, spent much of his time on the ground. Sacked 21 times, the quarterback the Falcons felt might well beat out Archer from the start, threw for four touchdowns and eight interceptions. The Falcons picked up Scott Campbell, the former Pittsburgh Steeler, late last season for insurance. Strong-armed but erratic, it's unsure where he fits into the plans and the Falcons went into the draft having convinced most people that they desperately needed to fine the best quarterback available.

"Maybe our momentum and rhythm were affected by Dave's injury," says Campbell, "but we're looking at the team's bottom line (wins). With our new coaching staff, these guys will be tested in new ways. We were only 25th in passing last year and we've got to improve to reach our goals. That's no secret."

The running game, which hogged the clock last year with Riggs toting the ball, could feature the tandem Henning chose to ignore. Depending on whether former Pro Bowler William Andrews equals the strides of last year, both he and Riggs could line up together. Until now, such appearances have been limited to short-yardage formations. Andrews, who missed two seasons after suffering a career-threatening injury that stretched the peroneal nerve in his left knee, showed bursts of this old self last year, rushing for 214 yards on 52 carries. Adhesions broke free in the knee late in the season, increasing his range of motion and raising optimism for 1987.

Regarding how Andrews, still a punishing blocker, fits into the two-backs plans, Dowhower said, "he could be a big key."

In addition to Andrews, who also spent time at H-back, the running backs are an unheralded group—Cliff Austin, Keith Williams and Sylvester Stamps—although each would seem to benefit from a two-back set.

Charlie Brown (63 catches, 918 yards), who rebounded from a dismal first year with the Falcons after a trade with Washington, and second-year man Floyd Dixon (42 for 617) are the starters at wide receiver, but depth is needed behind them, as injuries proved out a year ago. Former starters Stacey Bailey and Billy "White Shoes" Johnson and Anthony Allen all spent time on injured reserve. Johnson, the NFL's all-time punt return leader, missed 12 weeks with an arch injury. There's potential help with ex-USFL players Joey Jones and Aubrey Matthews.

At the tight end/H-back position, Ken Whisenhunt (20 for 184) has been the starter, but now faces a changing role. Formidable Arthur Cox, the blocking tight end, caught 24 passes for 301 yards and ran authoritatively after the catch.

The good news on the offensive line is guard Bill Fralic, who made the All-Pro team in his second season, and will probably be there for a decade. The bad news is that beyond Fralic and left tackle Mike Kenn, there are loads of questions. Injuries again racked the line, and the most crucial was to right tackle Brett Miller (knee surgery), who left a 5-2-1 team at the season's mid-point. Starting guard John Scully (hairline leg fracture) missed the final two games and reserve Jeff Kiewel missed the entire season with a knee injury requiring major surgery. Jamie Dukes, a 6-1, 270-pounder who looks more like a nose tackle, made four starts at guard and shows promise. Center Wayne Radloff takes over full-time for the retired Jeff Van Note, but Scully, a former center at Notre Dame, could see time there. The big change will be with coaching methods as Hanifan takes over for Larry Beightol, who joined Ray Perkins in Tampa.

Although Campbell will probably put his trust in Dowhower and Hanifan and meddle minimally with the offense, the defense is his. As well it should be after last season, when he took a defense that behind the defensive line was largely a study in anonymity and cut 49 points from Atlanta's 1985 yield.

The defensive line has the noted talent, where last year's No. 1 pick, nose tackle Tony Casillas, joined former No. 1 Rick Bryan and No. 2 pick Mike Gann in Campbell's revised 3-4 alignment. Mike Pitts, another No.1 of the past, backs up Gann on the left side. Casillas, who had much to learn about playing on the nose in the pros, was a much better player by season's end. Bryan, the toughest of the bunch, led the team in sacks (7), played most of the season with a hairline leg fracture and has stated 48 straight games. Gann led the club with 43 quarterback "hurries." Dennis Harrison, a 10-yr. man who Campbell had at Philadelphia, joined the club at mid-season and made late contributions, and Andrew Provence backs up on the nose and at end.

Linebackers Reggie Wilkes and Joel Williams, whom Campbell brought from Philadelphia, were "the blessing we needed." Campbell calls Wilkes, who made 92 tackels and two interceptions, his "coach on the field," and Williams, rejuvenated by a return to Atlanta, had two interceptions and 87 tackles. The real story at linebacker was Buddy Curry. The former NFL defensive rookie of the year, now an eighth-year man, was at one time fighting to make the team after a poor 1985 season. In 1986 Curry flourished in the four-linebacker set and played in his 105th straight game.

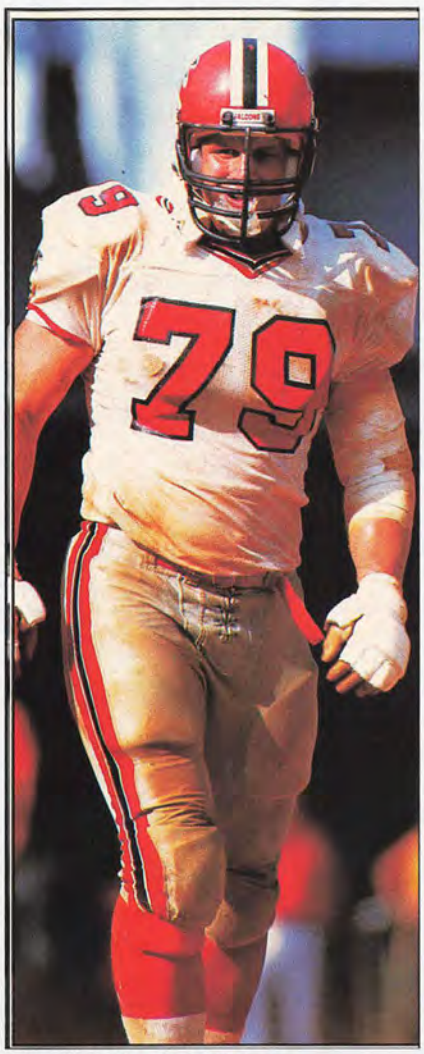
Rookie Tim Green, a No. 1 pick who missed the first five games of the season because of a ruptured calf msucle, also played some at a down lineman position. Campbell has moved him from inside to outside linebacker, hoping to better utilize his rush abilities without making him play two positions. Joe Costello, a former USFLer picked up from Cleveland, moves inside, where his 6-3, 250-pound body can plug the middle.

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Donnelly**, Rick	P	6-0	184	3	Wyoming
6	**Haji-Sheikh**, Ali	PK	6-0	172	5	Michigan
10	**Campbell**, Scott	QB	6-0	195	4	Purdue
14	**Schonert**, Turk	QB	6-1	192	8	Stanford
16	**Archer**, David	QB	6-2	200	4	Iowa State
18	**Luckhurst**, Mick	K	6-1	180	7	California
20	**Cason**, Wendell	SS	5-11	197	3	Oregon
21	**Turner**, Jimmy	CB	6-0	187	5	UCLA
22	**Woodbury**, Dennis	CB	5-10	183	2	Southern Arkansas
23	**Butler**, Bobby	CB	5-11	175	7	Florida State
25	**Case**, Scott	CB	6-0	178	4	Oklahoma
26	**Britt**, James	CB	6-0	185	4	Louisiana State
28	**Clark**, Bret	FS	6-3	197	2	Nebraska
29	**Stamps**, Sylvester	RB	5-7	175	3	Jackson State
30	**Croudip**, David	CB	5-8	183	4	San Diego State
31	**Andrews**, William	RB	6-0	220	7	Auburn
34	**Moore**, Robert	FS	5-11	190	1	Northwestern State
35	**Williams**, Keith	WR-RB	5-10	176	1	S.W. Missouri
39	**Austin**, Cliff	RB	6-0	207	5	Clemson
42	**Riggs**, Gerald	RB	6-1	230	6	Arizona State
43	**Jones**, Daryll	DB	6-1	195	4	Georgia
45	**Whisenhunt**, Ken	TE	6-2	235	1	Georgia Tech
48	**Sharp**, Dan	TE	6-2	235	1	Texas Christian
50	**Curry**, Buddy	ILB	6-4	228	8	North Carolina
51	**Wilkes**, Reggie	OLB	6-4	242	10	Georgia Tech
52	**Brown**, Aaron	ILB	6-1	230	6	Ohio State
53	**Phillips**, Ray	LB	6-3	245	1	North Carolina State
54	**Williams**, Joel	OLB	6-1	220	9	Wisconsin-La Crosse
55	**Radloff**, Wayne	C-G	6-5	277	3	Georgia
56	**Costello**, Joe	LB	6-3	250	2	Central State
59	**Rade**, John	ILB	6-1	240	5	Boise State
61	**Scully**, John	G	6-6	265	7	Notre Dame
62	**Miller**, Bret	T	6-7	300	5	Iowa
64	**Pellegrini**, Joe	G	6-4	265	6	Harvard
65	**Upchurch**, Andy	C	6-2	260	1	Arkansas
66	**Hinson**, Billy	G	6-1	278	2	Florida
68	**Harrison**, Dennis	DE	6-8	280	10	Vanderbilt
69	**Benish**, Dan	DE	6-5	280	5	Clemson
71	**Howe**, Glen	T	6-7	298	3	S. Mississippi
72	**Provence**, Andrew	DE	6-3	265	5	South Carolina
73	**Dukes**, Jamie	G	6-1	270	1	Florida State
74	**Pitts**, Mike	DE	6-5	277	5	Alabama
75	**Casillas**, Tony	NT	6-3	280	3	Oklahoma
76	**Gann**, Mike	DE	6-5	265	3	Notre Dame
77	**Bryan**, Rick	DE	6-4	270	4	Oklahoma
78	**Kenn**, Mike	T	6-7	277	10	Michigan
79	**Fralic**, Bill	G	6-5	285	3	Pittsburgh
80	**Landrum**, Mike	TE	6-2	231	7	S. Mississippi
81	**Johnson**, Billy	WR	5-9	170	13	Widener
82	**Bailey**, Stacey	WR	6-0	213	6	San Jose
83	**Matthews**, Aubrey	WR	5-7	165	2	Delta State
84	**Jones**, Joey	WR	5-8	165	2	Alabama
85	**Allen**, Anthony	WR	5-11	180	3	Washington
86	**Dixon**, Floyd	WR	5-9	172	1	Stephen F. Austin
87	**Middleton**, Ron	TE	6-2	252	1	Auburn
88	**Cox**, Arthur	TE	6-2	255	5	Texas Southern
89	**Brown**, Charlie	WR	5-10	180	6	South Carolina State
91	**Burnette**, Dave	T	6-6	285	1	U. Central Arkansas
96	**Taylor**, Johnny	OLB	6-4	238	3	Hawaii
99	**Greene**, Tim	LB	6-2	249	2	Syracuse
	Hudgins, Kevin	DE	6-4	270	1	Idaho State
	Caravello, Joe	NT	6-3	270	1	Tulane
	Belk, Veno	TE	6-3	229	1	Michigan State
	Morris, Dwaine	DT	6-2	260	1	SE Louisiana

Campbell pulled off the real miracle in the secondary last year when injuries hit—the most crucial to veteran cornerback Bobby Butler, who broke his leg in week 7. David Croudip, an obscure 5-8, 185-pounder, started for him and held up. Robert Moore, a free agent, started from Week 8 on when veteran Kenny Johnson left with a staph infection. Bret Clark, a USFL impost, won a starting job at weak safety. Scott Case, who switched to cornerback, intercepted four passes and performed more consistently than he did at his former safety position.

Special teams were an area that Campbell cited as in need of upgrading and he brought in former Wake Forest coach Al Groh to organize them. The big improvement must be made on punt returns, where the Falcons had a 6.6



Falcons' Bill Fralic anchors offensive line

Atlanta's Gerald Riggs has knack for breaking free

yard average and gave up 10.1. The key individual to watch is kicker Mick Luckhurst, who's coming back from off-season back surgery. Replaced last year after 10 games by Ali Haji-Sheik, Luckhurst was just 14-of-24 on field goals when he left.

Punter Rick Donnelly had his best average (43.9) and a career-high kick of 71-yards, but nobody could ever boot the Falcons out of their mid-season slide. Campbell is hoping that intangibles have carried over, such as what he felt was an indication of character when the team won a season-ending game at Detroit instead of packing in the year. Fortunately, the Falcons' third-place finish helped ease the scheduling burden for 1987. Last year they played nine games with playoff teams. This year it's down to six.

"Offensively, we stayed on the field a long time last year but didn't get enough points out of it," Campbell said. "Defensively, we can't slip. I don't ever say whether we are or aren't a playoff team," he said. "Heck, at this point not even Parcells up there in New York can make a statement like that."□

FALCONS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	FALCONS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	305	268
Rushing	149	111
Passing	137	139
Penalty	19	18
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	85/235 36.2%	73/206 35.4%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	15/25 60%	6/11 54.5%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5106	4908
Avg. Per Game	319.1	306.8
Total Plays	1086	964
Avg. Per Play	4.7	5.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	2524	1916
Avg. Per Game	157.8	119.8
Total Rushes	578	485
NET YARDS PASSING	2582	2992
Avg. Per Game	161.4	187.0
Tackled/Yards Lost	56/464	26/177
Gross Yards	3046	3169
Attempts/Completions	452/246	453/241
Pct. of Completions	54.4	53.2
Had Intercepted	17	22
PUNTS/AVERAGE	79/43.3	83/41.4
NET PUNTING AVG.	35.0	35.7
PENALTIES/YARDS	99/763	106/834
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	31/16	30/14
TOUCHDOWNS	30	34
Rushing	12	10
Passing	14	19
Returns	4	5

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
FALCONS	74	51	64	88	3	280
Opp. Total	34	131	48	67	0	280

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Luckhurst	1-1	1-2	5-7	7-11	0-3	14-24
Haji-Sheikh	1-1	3-3	2-4	3-3	0-1	9-12

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Riggs	343	1327	3.9	31	9
Archer	52	298	5.7	22	0
Austin	62	280	4.5	22	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
C.Brown	63	918	14.6	42	4
Dixon	42	617	14.7	65	2
Cox	24	301	12.5	49	1
Riggs	24	136	5.7	11	0
Stamps	20	221	11.1	39t	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Clark	5	94	18.8	34	0
Case	4	41	10.3	41	0
Croudip	2	35	17.5	29	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Donnelly	78	3421	43.9	9	19	71	1

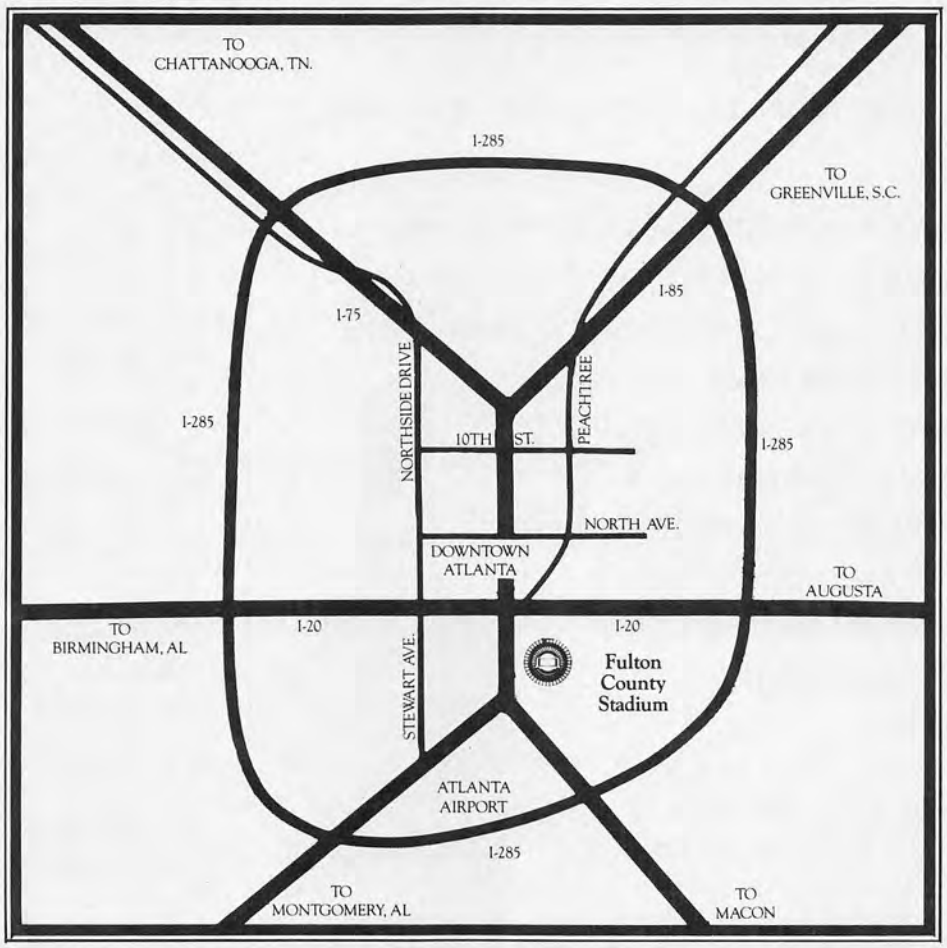
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Dixon	26	3	151	5.8	16	0
B.Johnson	8	8	87	10.9	30	0

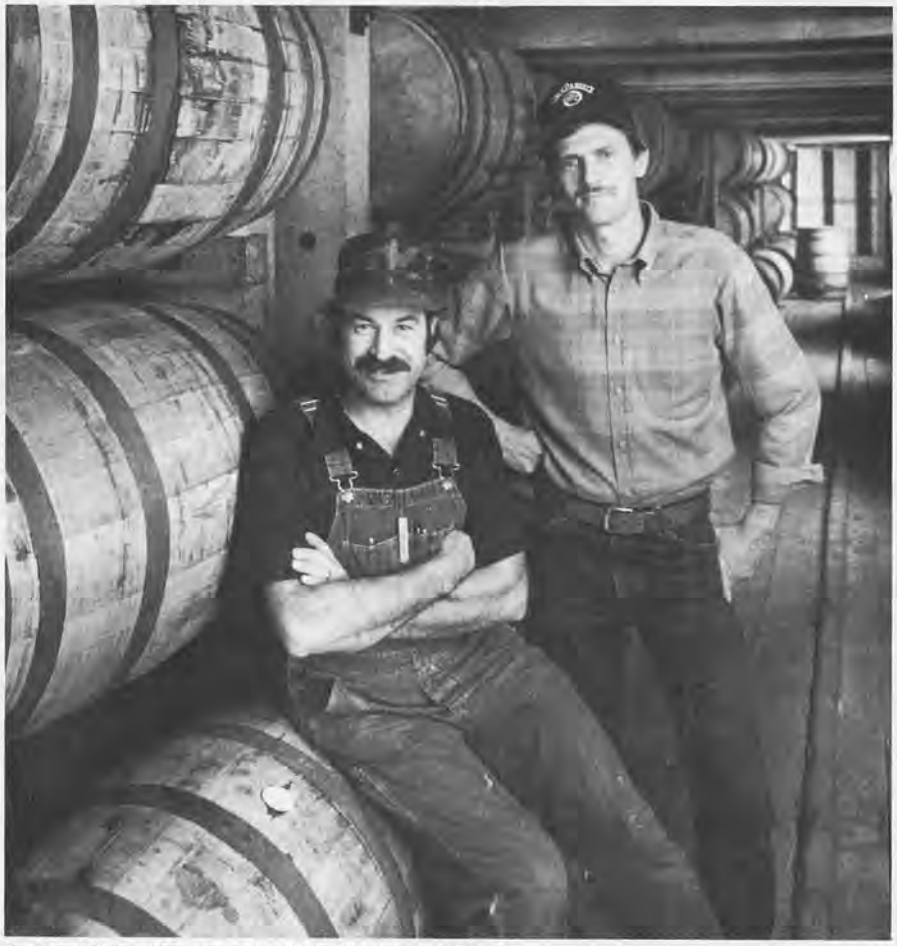
KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Stamps	24	514	21.4	35	0
K.Williams	14	255	18.2	32	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Archer	294	150	2007	51.0	6.83	10	3.4	9	3.1	65	34/249	71.6
Schonert	154	95	1032	61.7	6.70	4	2.6	8	5.2	41	21/206	68.4

FALCONS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Chris **MILLER** *QB*	6-2, 195	**Oregon**	'86 first team All-Pac 10...216 completions of 356 passes (60.7%) for 2503 yds. & 12 TD's ...eff. rating of 123.6.
2	Kenny **FLOWERS** *FB-TB*	6-0, 207	**Clemson**	'86 595 yds. rushing on 123 carries (4.8 avg.) & 5 TD's...42 yds. on 7 carries for East squad in Hula Bowl.
4	Ralph **VAN DYKE** *OT-G*	6-6, 260	**Southern Illinois**	'86 first team All-Gateway Conf...consistently graded in the 90's in every game.
5	Mark **MRAZ** *DE*	6-4, 255	**Utah State**	'86 first team All-PCAA...49 tackles (21 solos), 13 sacks & 16 tackles for 79 yds. in losses...deflected 5 passes.
6	Paul **KISER** *OG*	6-3, 272	**Wake Forest**	Can bench press over 480 lbs. & leg press 850 lbs...'86 first team All-ACC & All-American selection by various news services...received an 86% blocking grade.
7	Michael **REID** *MLB*	6-2, 226	**Wisconsin**	'86 second team All-Big 10...156 tackles (102 solos), a sack & 5 tackles for 21 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau., int'ed a pass & deflected 3 others.
8	Curtis **TALIAFERRO** *LB*	6-2, 226	**Virginia Tech**	'86 All-South..75 tackles (42 solos), 3 sacks.
9	Terrence **ANTHONY** *DB*	5-10, 180	**Iowa St.**	'86...41 tackles (21 solos), 3 int's., 2 fmb. cau., 2 fmb. rec.
10	Jerry **REESE** *TE*	6-2, 230	**Illinois**	'86 caught 37 passes for 568 yds., 3 TD's.
11	Elbert **SHELLEY** *DB*	5-11, 180	**Arkansas St.**	'86...65 tackles (48 solos), 1 sack, 2 int's., 2 fmb. cau., 2 fmb. rec.
12	Larry **EMERY** *HB*	5-9, 195	**Wisconsin**	'86 second team All-Big 10...led team with 855 yds. on 193 carries (4.4 avg.) & 4 TD's, adding 56 yds. on 11 recpts.





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NEW YORK GIANTS

continued from page 10

The only real trouble spot for the defense looms in the secondary, which was hit with more than its share of injuries last year. The only player who stayed healthy all season was right cornerback Perry Williams. "He had a really good year," says defensive coordinator Bill Belichick. "I could be wrong, but I don't think he had a pass completed on him in the playoffs." Free safety Terry Kinard was having a Pro Bowl-type season until he tore knee ligaments Dec. 7. The Giants would dearly like to have him back at full strength on opening day. Herb Welch played well in his place, but isn't nearly the athlete Kinard is. Strong safety Kenny Hill played on two bad ankles, which were cleaned with an arthroscope during the off-season. Mark Collins, a second-year man, and fourth-year man Elvis Patterson will battle for the left corner job. Neither could stay healthy all last year. Greg Lasker could battle for a starting safety spot in his second year, while veteran Tom Flynn, acquired late in the year after Kinard got hurt, figures to have trouble sticking this year.

The Giants' special teams are as strong as they've been in several years. Raul Allegre connected on 24 of 32 field-goal attempts and showed a strong leg on kickoffs. Punter Sean Landeta made the Pro Bowl, leading the conference with a 44.8-yard average. McConkey is a reliable if not explosive kickoff and punt returner. While his longest return was 27 yards, he didn't lose a fumble all last year. The Giants could use another kickoff returner, particularly one with breakaway speed.

Overall, the Giants appear to be ready for another title run, if the right people stay healthy. They can ill afford to lose Simms or Morris on offense, or Taylor or Banks on defense. But if an old reliable or two falters, there are several younger players ready to step in.

"I see a good work ethic, a good attitude and a good confidence level," says Parcells. "A lot of them want to prove to themselves and everybody else that what happened last year wasn't an accident."□

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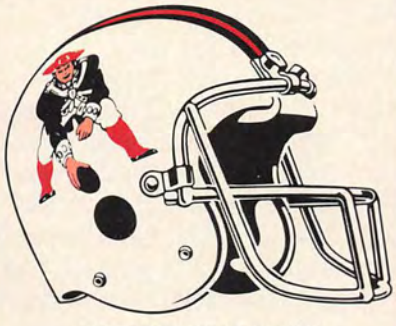


NEW ENGLAND
PATRIOTS

INDIANAPOLIS
COLTS

NEW YORK JETS

JETS TRY TO AVOID INJURIES

BY PETER FINNEY, JR.

Baffling.

Confounding.

Mystifying.

If the adjectives fit—and they certainly do—then the New York Jets must wear them. In the first 11 weeks of the 1986 season, Ken O'Brien and backup Pat Ryan directed the Jets to 10 victories. There was legitimate talk about them being the best team in the NFL, the team to beat on the way to Pasadena. They had the best record in football, and it also could be argued logically they had the best quarterback, with an offense too diverse even to slow down, much less stop cold.

And then, it seems, everything fell apart all at once. O'Brien, who had thrown 23 touchdown passes with only eight interceptions in leading the NFL quarterback ratings through 11 weeks, suddenly looked like a frightened rabbit. In a devastating 45-3 Monday night loss to the Miami Dolphins, whose defense the Jets had riddled in a 51-45 shootout earlier in the season, O'Brien completed just 11 passes for 168 yards. That started a confounding five-week slide in which O'Brien threw 12 interceptions and connected for just two touchdowns. At the same time, the Jets, who in November probably would have been installed as three-point favorites over the Giants, became the first team in NFL history to lose its last five games and still make the playoffs.

Forget about backing in. The Jets entered the playoffs on a concrete slab. Even at a respectful distance, O'Brien doesn't really know why it happened. He was playing so poorly coach Joe Walton made the highly unusual move of pulling him off the starting lineup in the wild-card playoff game against Kansas City. Ryan played for the first time in two months and engineered a 35-15 win. O'Brien came back the following week against Cleveland when Ryan strained his groin in the first half, and he had the Jets safely ahead, 20-10, with three minutes left. But in a microcosm of the season, the Jets allowed the Browns to send the game into overtime with conservative play-calling and lost, 23-20, in the sixth quarter.

Baffling.

"The talent's there," O'Brien says, trying to wipe away the nightmare. "Why things don't click, I don't know. You can't dwell on the negative or it would really drive you crazy. The teams that did well were the ones that came on strong at the end of the year. We've had a problem finishing strong the last few years. It's something that needs to be taken care of."

It's a quarterback's lot to take a disproportionate amount of the credit or blame for his team's production, but O'Brien did seem to be a troubled man late in the season. One of his superstitious routines at the end of every Friday practice is to stand at the 25-yard line and throw a bullet toward the upright. Usually it takes him only one try. "He's got a God-given gift to throw the ball accurately," said quarterback coach Zeke Bratkowski.

But that somehow went haywire. The Jets' passing offense is high-percentage and low-risk. In the first 11 weeks, O'Brien completed 208 of 313 passes for 66.6 percent. But in the final five weeks, he was 92 of 169 for 54.4 percent. Theories abound as to what happened. Some say the offense was pressing to compensate for knee injuries to key defensive players — linebacker Lance Mehl, nose tackle Joe Klecko and end Mark Gastineau. Walton says part of the problem was O'Brien's right pinky, which sustained a slight fracture and made it difficult for him to control the ball. But the most recent explanation is that the offensive line simply lost strength when several players—particularly left tackle Jim Sweeney and left guard Ted Banker—couldn't even lift weights in the final two months of the season because of shoulder injuries.

"There's a lot more that went into that streak than Kenny O'Brien," Ryan said. "We got depleted. About the last five or six games, our protection wasn't what it was earlier in the season. Hell, we had two guys playing and they only had one arm. They just got weak, and consequently our protection broke down. Its's tough to run an offense that way, especially when you have to throw the ball some.

"Everything just kind of caved in on us at once and we got a lot of momentum going the wrong way. Then Kenny got caught in a position where he's out there trying to make things happen. When you're trying to make things happen, probably 75 percent of the time something wrong happens."

Walton never hinted during the season that his line was getting so weak. But in his off-season evaluation, he pinpointed the line troubles as one source of the collapse.

"There's never one reason for anything," Walton said. "There's always a series of things that develop. Sweeney played the last six weeks with a harness. Ted Banker played with a harness and shouldn't have been playing as much as Sweeney was. We lost center Joe Fields for eight games, and Joe wasn't 100 percent when he came back. Right tackle Gordon King lost 20 pounds because of the flu. Dan Radakovich did a good job coaching the offensive line, but it was still a struggle the last five or six games."

One of Walton's major objectives for 1987 is to get his entire team stronger to prevent a reoccurrence of the injury problems. He instituted an eight week intensive weight-lifting program beginning in May to meet that goal.

"The offensive line has to stay strong, particularly to pass-block," Walton said. "It's something that will prolong their careers and help them to play better throughout the season. Near the end of the year we weren't as physically strong as we were at the beginning of the year."

By far, Walton's biggest concern about 1987 is knowing exactly which players will be able to line up and play. Klecko, Mehl and tackle Reggie McElroy each underwent major reconstructive knee surgery and won't be ready for the start of the season. It normally takes between 10-12 months for a player to be strong enough to return from that surgery. Mehl, a Pro Bowl linebacker in 1985, had his surgery last October, while Klecko and McElroy were operated on in December.

"We're optimistic, but it's going to take time," Walton said. "We're looking at October before they would be ready to play. There's a possibility they could be back sooner, but it's not likely."

Those aren't the only injury problems. Defensive end Marty Lyons had surgery on both shoulders and won't be able to compete until the beginning of September. Gastineau, a two-time NFL sack leader who had only two last season, tore the anterior cruciate ligament in his knee but did not undergo surgery and returned for the playoffs. He'll play with a brace this year, but it's anyone's guess if the knee will hold up.

"You have to play with the cards you are dealt," Walton said. "One positive thing that came out of last year was that some people got a chance to play because of the injuries and showed that they are going to be players in the future."

If the line can come together, the Jets should have an awesome offense. Al Toon, who made Pro Bowl in his second season, has become one of the most feared wide receivers in football. His calling card is grace, leaping ability and incredible toughness, and he finished second in the AFC with 85 catches and eight touchdowns. The lasting image of his season was a 62-yard romp through the New Orleans secondary in which he broke four tackles.

Toon is complemented by Wesley Walker, who has the sprinter's speed to bend defenses. Six of his career-high 12

Al Toon, of the New York Jets, watches and waits for each catch

Jets' Marty Lyons causes offensive headaches

scoring catches went for 83, 71, 65, 50, 46 and 43 yards, and his 20.7-yard average marked the second straight season in which he topped 20 yards a catch.

Tight end Mickey Shuler finally achieved a dream by making the Pro Bowl in his ninth season. He took on more of a blocking role but still managed to catch 69 passes—second only to Raiders' tight end Todd Christensen.

In addition to their fine passing game, the Jets have one of the premier runners in the AFC in Freeman McNeil as well as an excellent backup in Johnny Hector. McNeil started slowly in 1986 and then missed four games with a dislocated right elbow, but he rallied to finish fifth in the AFC in rushing with 856 yards and five TD's. He also shined as a receiver with 49 catches for 410 yards.

When McNeil was on injured reserve, Hector filled in marvelously. In a 14-13 win over Buffalo, he rushed for 117 yards and caught passes for 100 to become the first Jet player to surpass 100 yards in each category in one game. Walton will use McNeil and Hector in the same backfield often this year because he doesn't have a true running fullback.

"Johnny will do a lot more work at the fullback position," Walton said. "It makes us a lot harder to defense when they're both together in the same backfield."

Ironically, the Jets seemed to run the ball best when Ryan, 31, started at quarterback. Ryan beat New England and Denver during the regular season when O'Brien was out with a sprained knee and beat the Chiefs in the playoffs. But despite his slump, O'Brien, 26, is solidly entrenched as the No. 1.

"There's no doubt in my mind he's a class act," Walton said. "He's got a lot of talent. He's proved he can win, he'll win again and we'll win again."

The picture is far cloudier on defense. Until Klecko, Lyons and Gastineau went down, no runner had gained 100 yards on the Jets. Only two teams in the first 11 weeks had rushed for 100 yards against them. The only starting lineman who stayed healthy throughout was Barry Bennett, who was strong against the run.

The Jets finished dead-last in the NFL in pass defense, but some of the coverage mistakes were in part the result of nonexistent pressure on the passer. The Jets recorded only 28 sacks in 1986, which is terrible when you consider Gastineau had 22 by himself in 1984. Tom Baldwin, steady but not spectacular, will take over at nose tackle until Klecko returns (in 1988?).

With Mehl out, the linebacking is weak. Bob Crable made a fine return from knee surgery in 1985 and showed some blitzing ability, but Rusty Guilbeau, the other outside linebacker, was regularly manhandled. Inside linebacker Kyle Clifton led the Jets with 174 total tackles, but he missed Mehl's presence at his side. Kevin McArthur was inserted on the inside almost in desperation, but he showed surprising toughness and speed.

Defensive coordinator Bud Carson couldn't have been happy finishing 28th in pass defense, but he recognized much of the time corners Russell Carter and Jerry Holmes were sitting ducks while quarterbacks surveyed the field. Carter has the potential to be a great one, but he hasn't sustained that level throughout a season. Free safety Harry Hamilton is an excellent tackler and intelligent. Strong safety Lester Lyles has as much physical talent as any player on the team but he gets sloppy on his assignments.

The Jets special teams, coached by Larry Pasqualke, are among the best in the AFC and the two specialists are the oldest tandem in the NFL. Kicker Pat Leahy is 36 and he's been with the Jets since 1974. Leahy's accuracy has jumped to 77.6 percent since the Jets moved from Shea to Giants Stadium in 1984, and last year he came within one field goal of tying Mark Moseley's NFL record of 23 consecutive three-pointers. The only negative was his kickoff distance, which slipped from 1985.

Dave Jennings, 35, has lost some pop in his leg, but he's an excellent finesse punter who fits in well with the Jets because he's usually kicking from the middle of the field and trying to place the ball inside the 20. Jennings averaged only 39.4 yards, but he led the AFC with 27 punts inside the 20.

No matter what, the Jets must show they have staying power this year. In the last three seasons, they have a record of 19-5 in the first eight weeks and 9-15 in the second half of the year.

"We played some really good football last year," Ryan said. "But doing it for two-thirds of the season don't cut it." □

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
5	**Leahy**, Pat	K	6-0	200	14	St. Louis
7	**O'Brien**, Ken	QB	6-4	205	5	Cal-Davis
10	**Ryan**, Pat	QB	6-3	210	10	Tennessee
13	**Jennings**, Dave	P	6-4	205	14	St. Lawrence
21	**Springs**, Kirk	S-KR	6-0	200	7	Miami of Ohio
22	**Bruckner**, Nick	RB	5-11	185	5	Syracuse
24	**McNeil**, Freeman	RB	5-11	218	7	UCLA
26	**Lyles**, Lester	SS-LB	6-3	210	3	Virginia
27	**Carter**, Russell	CB	6-2	196	4	Southern Methodist
28	**Howard**, Carl	CB-S	6-2	190	4	Rutgers
29	**Lynn**, Johnny	FS	6-0	198	8	UCLA
30	**Faaola**, Nuu	RB	5-1	215	1	Hawaii
31	**Barber**, Marion	FB	6-3	224	6	Minnesota
34	**Hector**, Johnny	RB	5-11	198	5	Texas A&M
35	**Glenn**, Kerry	CB	5-9	173	3	Minnesota
36	**Miano**, Rich	FS	6-0	200	3	Hawaii
39	**Hamilton**, Harry	SS	6-0	193	4	Penn State
43	**Amoia**, Vince	RB	5-11	220	R	Arizona State
47	**Holmes**, Jerry	CB	6-2	175	6	West Virginia
48	**Humphrey**, Bobby	CB	5-10	180	4	New Mexico State
49	**Paige**, Tony	FB	5-10	220	4	Virginia Tech
50	**Crable**, Bob	OLB	6-3	232	6	Notre Dame
52	**Crawford**, Tim	LB	6-4	230	R	Texas Tech
53	**Sweeney**, Jim	T-G	6-4	266	4	Pittsburgh
54	**Benson**, Troy	ILB	6-2	230	2	Pittsburgh
56	**Mehl**, Lance	ILB	6-3	230	8	Penn State
57	**McArthur**, Kevin	LB	6-2	230	2	Lamar
58	**Monger**, Matt	ILB	6-1	235	3	Oklahoma State
59	**Clifton**, Kyle	ILB	6-4	232	4	Texas Christian
60	**Alexander**, Dan	G	6-4	260	11	Louisiana State
63	**Banker**, Ted	G-T	6-2	265	4	S.E. Missouri
64	**Bingham**, Guy	C-T	6-3	250	8	Montana
65	**Fields**, Joe	C	6-2	253	13	Widener
68	**McElroy**, Reggie	T-G	6-6	270	5	West Texas State
70	**Waldemore**, Stan	G-C	6-4	269	8	Nebraska
72	**King**, Gordon	T	6-6	275	9	Stanford
73	**Klecko**, Joe	NT-DE	6-3	263	11	Temple
74	**Moore**, Derland	NT	6-4	273	15	Oklahoma
78	**Bennett**, Barry	DE-DT	6-4	257	10	Concordia, Minn.
79	**Haight**, Mike	G-T	6-4	270	1	Iowa
80	**Jones**, Johnny "Lam"	WR	5-11	185	7	Texas
81	**Griggs**, Billy	TE	6-3	230	3	Virginia
82	**Shuler**, Mickey	TE	6-3	232	10	Penn State
83	**Townsell**, Jo Jo	WR	5-9	180	3	UCLA
84	**Harper**, Michael	WR	5-10	185	2	Southern California
85	**Walker**, Wesley	WR	6-0	179	11	California
87	**Sohn**, Kurt	WR	5-11	180	6	Fordham
88	**Toon**, Al	WR	6-4	205	3	Wisconsin
89	**Klever**, Rocky	TE	6-3	225	5	Montana
93	**Lyons**, Marty	DE-DT	6-5	265	9	Alabama
94	**Guilbeau**, Rusty	LB	6-4	235	6	McNeese State
95	**Baldwin**, Tom	NT	6-4	275	4	Tulsa
98	**Foster**, Jerome	DE	6-2	275	4	Ohio State
99	**Gastineau**, Mark	DE	6-5	265	9	E. Central Oklahoma

JETS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	JETS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	319	349
Rushing	104	92
Passing	191	216
Penalty	24	41
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	88/227	100/233
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	7/17	7/21
TOTAL NET YARDS	5375	6050
Avg. Per Game	335.9	378.1
Total Plays	1072	1081
Avg. Per Play	5.0	5.6
NET YARDS RUSHING	1729	1661
Avg. Per Game	108.1	103.8
Total Rushes	490	450
NET YARDS PASSING	3646	4389
Avg. Per Game	227.9	274.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	45/386	28/178
Gross Yards	4032	4567
Attempts/Completions	537/334	603/348
Pct. of Completions	62.2	57.7
Had Intercepted	21	20
PUNTS/AVERAGE	85/39.4	75/39.7
NET PUNTING AVG.	36.1	31.9
PENALTIES/YARDS	131/981	102/795
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	37/16	48/18
TOUCHDOWNS	45	48
Rushing	16	12
Passing	27	35
Returns	2	1

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
JETS	54	181	30	93	6	364
Opp. Total	55	91	95	145	0	386

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Leahy	1-1	5-5	4-4	5-8	1-1	16-19

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McNeil	214	856	4.0	40	5
Hector	164	605	3.7	41	8
Paige	47	109	2.3	9	2

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Toon	85	1176	13.8	62t	8
Shuler	69	675	9.8	36t	4
Walker	49	1016	20.7	83t	12
McNeil	49	410	8.4	26	1
Hector	33	302	9.2	23	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Holmes	6	29	4.8	28	0
Lyles	5	36	7.2	22	0
Lynn	5	36	7.2	26	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Jennings	85	3353	39.4	6	27	55	0

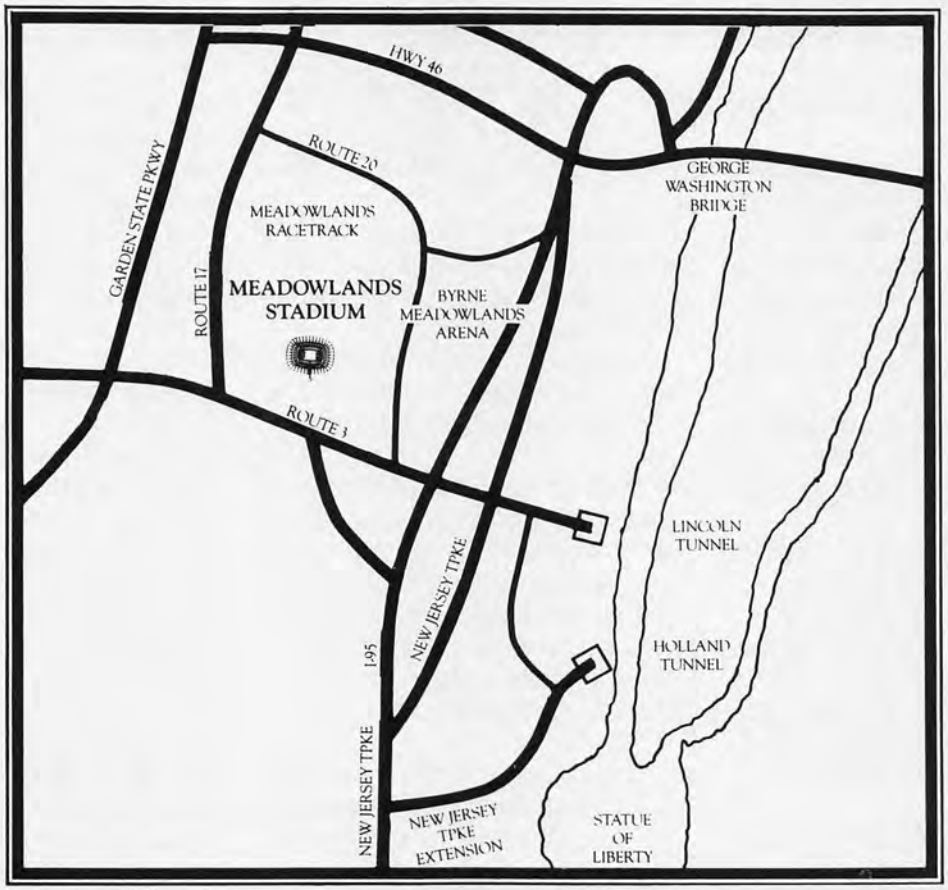
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Sohn	35	8	289	8.3	27	0
Townsell	4	1	52	13.0	28	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Humphery	28	655	23.4	96t	1
Townsell	13	322	24.8	93t	1

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
O'Brien	482	300	3690	62.2	7.66	25	5.2	20	4.1	83t	40/353	85.8
Ryan	55	34	342	61.8	6.22	2	3.6	1	1.8	36	5/33	84.1

JETS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Roger **VICK** *FB*	6-3, 220	**Texas A&M**	'86 first team All-SWC...960 yds. on 220 carries (4.4 avg.) & 10 TD's...added 128 yds. on 20 recpts.
2	Alex **GORDON** *OLB*	6-4, 243	**Cincinnati**	'86 first team All-Metro...109 tackles (36 solos), 2 sacks & 8 tackles for 23 yds. in losses, 3 pass deflections...finalist for Butkus Award.
3	Onzy **ELAM** *OLB*	6-2, 215	**Tennessee St.**	'86...95 tackles (60 solos)...5 fmb. rec. & 3 fmb. cau., int. a pass & deflected 10 others...blked a punt...finished with 10 sacks on the year.
5	Kirby **JACKSON** *DB*	6-1, 180	**Mississippi St.**	'86...52 tackles (33 solos), 9 deflections, 1 int, 2 fmb. rec.
6	Tracy **MARTIN** *WR*	6-3, 205	**No. Dakota**	'86...69 rushes for 874 yds., 9 TD's.
7	Gerald **NICHOLS** *DT*	6-2, 265	**Florida St.**	'86...59 tackles (26 solos)...1 sack with 3 tackles for 18 yds. in losses...1 fmb. rec.
8A	Eddie **HUNTER** *RB*	5-10, 191	**Virginia Tech.**	'86 rushed for 872 yds. on 169 carries for 6 TD's...caught 4 passes for 61 yds.
8B	Mike **RICE** *WR-P-KR*	6-0, 195	**Montana**	'86 All-Big Sky as a receiver & punter...64 recpts. for 1046 yds. & 13 TD's...averaged 40.5 yds. on 64 punts for 2591 yds. & a long of 73.
9	Ron **McLEAN** *DT-E*	6-4, 255	**Cal St.-Fullerton**	'86 second team All-PCAA...63 tackles (37 solos), 4 sacks & 9 tackles for 64 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau. & 2 fmb. rec's, & deflected a pass.
10	Sid **LEWIS** *DB*	5-11, 180	**Penn St.**	'86 played as a backup...caught 2 passes for 22 yds...sprinter for track team.
11	Kirk **TIMMER** *LB*	6-3, 237	**Montana St.**	'86...137 tackles (59 solos), 3 sacks, 1 fmb. rec., 3 fmb. cau., 4 deflections.
12	Bill **RANSDELL** *QB*	6-2, 215	**Kentucky**	'86 passed for 1,610 yds...comp 151 of 256 passes...3 TD's, 9 int's.



NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

NEW FACES COULD PUSH THEM TO THE TOP

BY RON BORGES

If the New England Patriots could ever get their offense as balanced as the Flying Wallendas, they could leave the rest of the National Football League without a safety net.

A year ago, the Patriots' reign as AFC champions was shorter than Leon Spinks's time as heavyweight champion and for good reason—they were unable to move the ball on the ground without putting it in the trunk of a car.

Once the most feared rushing team in the NFL, the Patriots became its worst last season, averaging just over 85 yards a game and rushing for only 1373 yards all season. Several years ago, Eric Dickerson did that much damage in half a season.

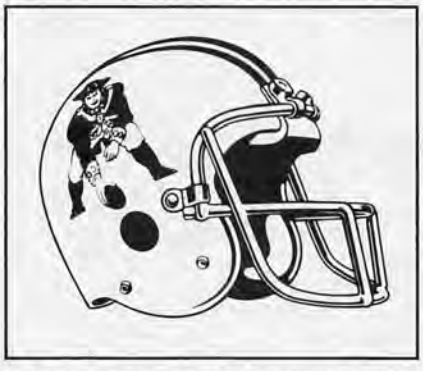
Yet despite this rather obvious deficiency, New England won the AFC East title with its second consecutive 11-5 record, lost in the first round of the playoffs to eventual conference champion Denver by only five points, and was second in the league in scoring with 412 points.

All this with an offense as unbalanced as Jack the Ripper. Thus, it would seem the Patriots aim for '87 is obvious—get running.

"We relied on the pass too much last year," Coach Raymond Berry said. "But we showed we have guys who can go get the ball. If we get our balanced attack back, we're going to do even better. We have some awesome capabilities. But that's the challenge ahead of us—to get things out of what we've got."

If Berry accomplishes that, the Patriots should again be the class of the AFC East because they boast its best defense and most explosive offense. But, as wide receiver Cedric Jones pointed out, there still may be a need here if the Patriots are to make another run into the playoffs in 1987.

"It's obvious we need to improve some areas," Jones said. "Maybe some fresh blood wouldn't be bad. We're a very



good team, but maybe we got complacent. Some new faces could push us to the level we're capable of."

According to Berry, that level is the apex of the NFL and as far as he and his fans are concerned, nothing less will do.

"If we get our balanced attack, we're going to do even more scoring," Berry said. "We showed last year we have guys who can go get the ball in the air and the season before we showed that we can move the ball on the ground. Now I would like to see one of our characteristics become a balanced attack."

Last year, New England's offense must have been coordinated by Dr. Jekyl and Mr. Hyde. On the one hand, they were the second most potent offense in the NFL, scoring 412 points with a passing game that was fourth in the league.

On the other hand, they were dead last in rushing and had two starting backs—Craig James and Tony Collins—who both averaged less than three yards per carry.

First, the up side.

Tony Eason carried the Patriots for much of the year, finishing with a 61.6 completion average, 3338 yards passing, 19 touchdowns, just 10 interceptions despite having to throw a club record 448 times and the clear message that he is now the leader of this team.

"It was an unusual season in that Tony had to carry the team offensively with his arm," Berry said. "With other teams knowing we were going to pass so much that put the focus on Tony's great mobility, quickness and speed. He beat teams not only with his arm, but with his scrambling."

Eason missed two games with a rib injury and had to leave the season finale in Miami when he stretched a nerve in his neck. Grogan came on that night in a game New England had to win and was 15 of 24 for 226 yards with two touchdowns, thus ending any thoughts anyone might have had that he couldn't carry the team himself if called upon.

Some would argue that with the receivers Eason and Grogan are throwing to, however, they should be carrying the team.

Veteran Stanley Morgan had one of the most remarkable years in NFL history, catching 84 passes for 1491 yards and 10 touchdowns, at the age of 31. Morgan,

who had eight games in which he produced 100 yards or more, returned to the Pro Bowl for the first time in five years after leading the AFC in receiving yardage, finishing third in receptions and fourth in touchdowns while hammering every type of coverage he faced.

"He accomplished something I think is unprecedented," Berry said. "I never heard of a wide receiver in his 10th year having the kind of season Stanley did. Wide receivers in their 10th year are usually retiring."

Morgan was retiring defensive backs instead, but some would contend young Irving Fryar did retire.

After making the Pro Bowl in 1985 as a punt returner, Fryar was injured in a freak auto accident late in the season when he left the locker room early after being injured against the Buffalo Bills and wrapped his Mercedes around a tree. It is hoped he will now confine his headline making to football.

For all their strength at wide receiver, however, there is a major weakness at tight end where veteran Lin Dawson is trying to come back against the odds from the knee injury that sidelined him all of last season. His absence was a major blow to New England's running game and neither veterans Greg Hawthorne and Willie Scott or rookie Greg Baty (37 catches) could replace his blocking power.

Baty is now the starter, unless Dawson is ready, because Hawthorne has been shifted back to running back as a possible blocking fullback and there does not appear to be anyone else who can help unless unknown commodity Mark Keel, a USFL refugee, steps ahead of the pack.

"We feel we have to get more blocking strength out of our tight end position," Berry said. "We're looking for Baty to continue to advance in this part of the game and we're going to wait and watch Lin Dawson's progress. If he's able to get back to his solid play, we'll have real strength at this position."

If not, they have real problems again and so will their running game.

Berry appears to have finally decided that James needs a bulky blocker in front of him if he is to stay healthy, hence the shifting of starting tight end Greg Hawthorne to fullback.

James, suffering from shoulder problems that required off season surgery, rushed for just 427 yards after gaining 1227 in 1985 and the majority of his problem was the absence of running room.

The same can be said for Collins, but he still contributed mightily with 77 pass receptions. But those numbers may decrease this year if Hawthrone takes over as a power blocker or if disappointing rookie Reggie Dupard (39 yards on 15 carries) shows signs of life. But no matter what it is, something has to change.

This brings us to perhaps the pivotal part of the Patriots' offense, the line. It must bounce back from a series of injuries and the psychological scars of falling apart after the retirement of All-Pro guard John Hannah or the offense could go from a one-dimensional to nondimensional.

The biggest fear is that their biggest and best lineman, tackle Steve Moore, may not be recovered from a severely broken ankle. If not, the Patriots made a masterful move to replace him by acquiring former All-Pro Sean Farrell from Tampa.

Farrell can play either guard or tackle and would prefer the former, but regardless of where he plays, he will be an improvement over a year ago.

According to the Patriots, left tackle Brian Holloway's disappointing season was the result of "four different injuries." Few people seemed to know what they were, but everyone knew he wasn't the Pro Bowl player he once had been.

Holloway is young enough to return to his former level of play, but center Pete Brock, who played nearly every play last year, may not be. Brock has given most of his body to the Patriots and there may not be enough parts left to keep him going. If not, young Trevor Matich will get his chance.

Guards Ron Wooten and Paul Fairchild will also be back and one may be battling Farrell if Moore is healed. Wooten slipped badly from his previous performances because of shoulder problems while Fairchild made no one forget Hannah. But both are solid, if healthy, which is a start.

New England's pass defense was sixth in the NFL, but it finished 24th against the run, in large measure because of the absence of defensive end Kenneth Sims.

Rookie Brent Williams stepped in and produced far more than could be expected of a seventh-round draft choice, but Sims is one of the league's best against the run and his year-long absence due to back problems showed.

Sims is expected back and if his return can be combined with the emergence of second-year man Mike Ruth at nose tackle, the Patriots' problems may be solved. Last season, Ruth played little while former defensive end Toby Williams was shifted to nose tackle. Williams did as well as could be expected, but he is not built for the job.

The bright spot was the continued growth of Garin Veris as a pass rusher. Veris led the team with 11 sacks in his first year as a full-time starter. He was seventh in the AFC and making noises about becoming a force among pass rushers.

Together this is a young group that should improve. At least that is what Berry is counting on.

"If we didn't bring in anyone new to our defensive line from last year to this coming season, I would still see us playing twice as well as we did last year," Berry said. "Kenneth (Sims) had surgery to his back and the problems turned out to be the least severe of all the possibilities (ruptured disc). With the operation behind him, he should be all the way back."

Standing behind Sims is the strongest position on the team if not in the entire AFC. New England's linebackers are topnotch from end to end with All-Pro Andre Tippett the top-notch leader and Don Blackmon not far behind. Together they guard the flanks and both deserve Pro Bowl spots, although only Tippett received one.

"Andre is a force in there when he's healthy," Berry said. "His forte is rushing

■ *continued on page 139*

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Franklin**, Tony	K	5-8	182	9	Texas A&M
3	**Camarillo**, Rich	P	5-11	185	7	Washington
11	**Eason**, Tony	QB	6-4	212	5	Illinois
12	**Ramsey**, Tom	QB	6-1	189	3	UCLA
14	**Grogan**, Steve	QB	6-4	210	13	Kansas State
21	**Dupard**, Reggie	HB	5-11	185	7	SMU
22	**Profit**, Eugene	DB	5-10	165	1	Yale
23	**McSwain**, Rod	CB	6-1	198	4	Clemson
24	**Weathers**, Robert	RB	6-2	225	6	Arizona State
26	**Clayborn**, Raymond	CB	6-0	186	11	Texas
27	**Hawthorne**, Greg	TE	6-2	235	9	Baylor
28	**Bowman**, Jim	S	6-2	210	3	Central Michigan
30	**Tatupu**, Mosi	RB	6-0	227	10	USC
31	**Marion**, Fred	S	6-2	191	6	Miami
32	**James**, Craig	RB	6-0	215	4	S.M.U.
33	**Collins**, Tony	HB	5-11	212	7	East Carolina
36	**Jordan**, Eric	RB-KR	6-0	190	2	Purdue
38	**James**, Roland	S	6-2	191	8	Tennessee
42	**Lippett**, Ronnie	CB	5-11	180	5	Miami
43	**Gibson**, Ernest	CB	5-10	185	4	Furman
45	**Keel**, Mark	TE	6-3	242	1	Arizona
46	**Chapman**, David	TE	6-4	245	1	W. Va. Inst. Tech
48	**Baty**, Greg	TE	6-5	241	1	Stanford
50	**McGrew**, Lawrence	LB	6-5	233	7	USC
51	**Ingram**, Brian	LB	6-4	235	6	Tennessee
52	**Rembert**, Johnny	LB	6-3	234	5	Clemson
53	**Weishuhn**, Clayton	LB	6-1	218	4	Angelo State
54	**Williams**, Ed	LB	6-4	244	4	Texas
55	**Blackmon**, Don	LB	6-3	235	7	Tulsa
56	**Tippett**, Andre	LB	6-3	241	6	Iowa
57	**Nelson**, Steve	LB	6-2	230	14	North Dakota State
58	**Brock**, Pete	C	6-5	275	12	Colorado
59	**Doig**, Steve	LB	6-2	240	5	New Hampshire
60	**Veris**, Garin	DE	6-4	255	3	Stanford
61	**Wooten**, Ron	G	6-4	273	6	North Carolina
62	**Bain**, Bill	T	6-4	260	13	USC
64	**Matich**, Trevor	C	6-4	270	3	Brigham Young
65	**Ruth**, Mike	DT	6-1	266	1	Boston College
66	**Fairchild**, Paul	G	6-4	270	4	Kansas
67	**Moore**, Steve	G-T	6-5	305	5	Tennessee State
68	**Haley**, Darryl	T-G	6-4	265	5	Utah
70	**Plunkett**, Art	T	6-8	282	7	Nevada-Las Vegas
75	**Morriss**, Guy	C-G	6-4	275	15	Texas Christian
76	**Holloway**, Brian	T	6-7	288	7	Stanford
77	**Sims**, Kenneth	DE	6-5	271	6	Texas
80	**Fryar**, Irving	WR-KR	6-0	200	4	Nebraska
81	**Starring**, Stephen	WR-KR	5-10	172	5	McNeese State
82	**Williams**, Derwin	WR	6-1	185	3	New Mexico
83	**Jones**, Cedric	WR	6-1	184	6	Duke
86	**Morgan**, Stanley	WR	5-11	181	11	Tennessee
87	**Dawson**, Lin	TE	6-3	240	7	N. Carolina State
88	**Scott**, Willie	TE	6-4	245	7	South Carolina
90	**Williams**, Toby	DL	6-4	270	5	Nebraska
94	**Black**, Mel	LB	6-2	228	1	Eastern Illinois
95	**Reynolds**, Ed	LB	6-5	242	5	Virginia
96	**Williams**, Brent	DT	6-3	278	1	Toledo
97	**Hodge**, Milford	DE	6-3	278	1	Washington State
98	**Owens**, Dennis	NT	6-1	258	6	N. Carolina State

PATRIOTS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	Patriots	Opponent
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	314	286
Rushing	77	118
Passing	202	153
Penalty	35	15
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	77/227	79/219
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	8/11	7/12
TOTAL NET YARDS	5327	5181
Avg. Per Game	332.9	323.8
Total Plays	1073	1031
Avg. Per Play	5.0	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	1373	2203
Avg. Per Game	85.8	137.7
Total Rushes	469	510
NET YARDS PASSING	3954	2978
Avg. Per Game	247.1	186.1
Tackled/Yards Lost	47/367	48/346
Gross Yards	4321	3324
Attempts/Completions	557/340	473/255
Pct. of Completions	61.0	53.9
Had Intercepted	13	21
PUNTS/AVERAGE	92/40.7	90/39.8
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.1	33.4
PENALTIES/YARDS	87/672	106/866
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	27/11	38/19
TOUCHDOWNS	45	35
Rushing	10	19
Passing	29	15
Returns	6	1

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
PATRIOTS	82	102	99	129	0	412
Opp. Total	34	83	64	126	0	307

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Franklin	1-1	7-7	15-17	9-16	0-0	32-41

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
C. James	154	427	2.8	16	4
Collins	156	412	2.6	17	3
Tatupu	71	172	2.4	13	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Morgan	84	1491	17.8	t44	10
Collins	77	684	8.9	49	5
Fryar	43	737	17.1	t69	6
Baty	37	331	8.9	22	2
Hawthorne	24	192	8.0	17	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lippett	8	76	9.5	43	0
Clayborn	3	4	1.3	4	0
Marion	2	56	28.0	t37	1

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Camarillo	89	3746	42.1	7	16	64	3

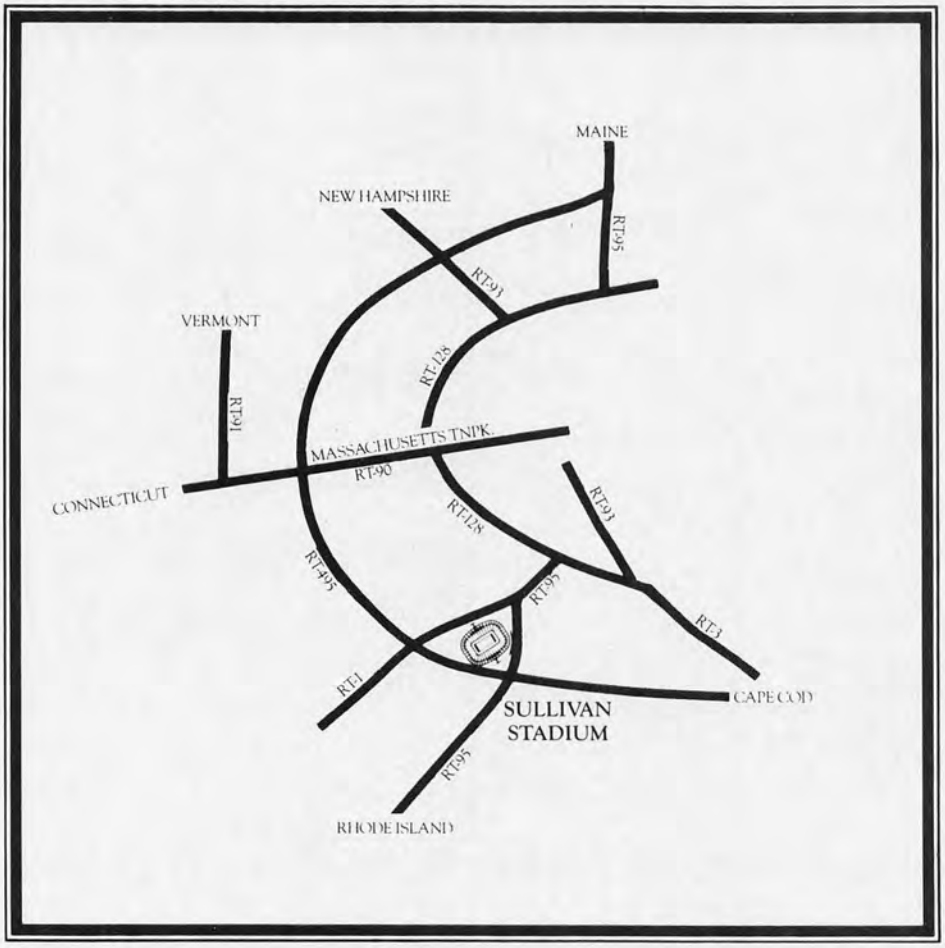
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Fryar	35	10	366	10.5	t59	1
Starring	6	0	18	3.0	12	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Starring	36	802	22.3	52	0
Fryar	10	192	19.2	33	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Eason	448	276	3328	61.6	7.43	19	4.2	10	2.2	49	43/336	89.2
Grogan	102	62	976	60.8	9.57	9	8.8	2	2.0	t69	4/31	113.8

PATRIOTS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Bruce **ARMSTRONG** *OG*	6-4, 260	**Louisville**	Made transition from tight end to tackle & to quard last year...had a 91% blocking grade, highest on the team.
3	Bob **PERRYMAN** *FB*	6-1, 232	**Michigan**	'86 All-Big Ten Conf. Hon. Men....second on team with 422 yds. on 98 attps.(4.3 avg) & 6 TD's...caught 8 passes for 93 yds.
4A	Rich **GANNON** *QB*	6-3, 200	**Delaware**	'86 All Yankee Conf. selection...Set season passing records with 201 completions of 361 passes for 2795 yds. & 16 TD's.
4B	Derrick **BEASLEY** *DB*	6-2, 210	**Winston-Salem St.**	'86...97 tackles (50 solos), 1 int, 10 pass deflections, 2 fmb. rec., 4 sacks.
4C	Tim **JORDAN** *OLB*	6-3, 221	**Wisconsin**	'86...62 tackles (40 solos), 8 sacks & 9 tackles for 52 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau. & 2 pass deflections...missed 2 games with knee problems.
5A	Danny **VILLA** *OT*	6-5, 293	**Arizona St.**	'86 first team All-Pac-10...graded highest among the team's linemen with a 93% mark...Winner of the Morris Trophy, given to the best offensive lineman in the PAC-10.
5B	Tom **GIBSON** *DE*	6-8, 265	**No. Arizona**	'86 first team All-Big Sky...58 tackles (32 solos), 9 sacks & 12 tackles for 54 yds. in losses...13 pass deflections...1 fmb. rec. & 1 fmb. cau.
6	Gene **TAYLOR** *WR*	6-2, 190	**Fresno St.**	'86 caught 26 passes for 382 yds., 2 TD's.
11	Carlos **REVEIZ** *PK*	5-9, 188	**Tennessee**	55 yd. fg; longest...connected on 10 of 19 fg's & 25 of 27 extra points in '86 season.
12	Elgin **DAVIS** *RB*	5-11, 190	**Central Florida**	'86 rushed 124 times for 597 yds.



NEW ENGLAND

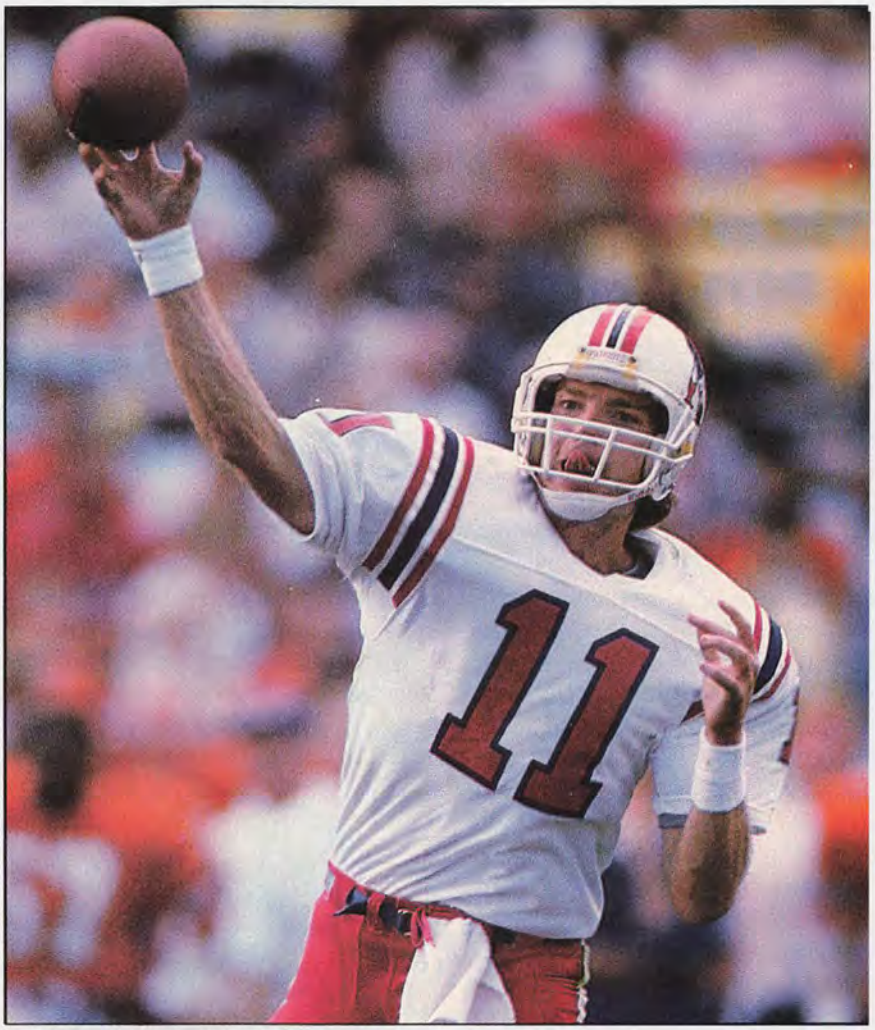
continued from page 135

the quarterback and when he's at top speed there are none better."

"As for Don Blackmon, we feel he should rank right up there with the great all-around linebackers in the league. He is a great player."

Inside stands steady Lawrence McGrew and the team's anchor, Steve Nelson. Nelson is in his 14th NFL season and is coming off another knee operation, which is never good news. But Nelson is expected back, and even if he's not there is an able replacement in Johnny Rembert and also in the wings is one-time starter Clayton Weishuhn, although he may be facing his last go-around after missing three consecutive seasons with severe knee problems plus groin and hamstring injuries.

Pats' Andre Tippett thrives on pressuring quarterbacks



Tony Eason will be New England's main offensive weapon

The secondary is rock solid with All-Pro Raymond Clayborn at one corner and vastly improved Ronnie Lippett at the other. Teams tried to attack Lippett and he responded with eight interceptions and now is a fixture, although Rod McSwain is an intriguing combination of size, speed, quickness and big play potential. Problem is he's seldom converted those skills on the field.

The safeties are manned by Roland James and Fred Marion. Marion, at free safety, was not as spectacular as in 1985, but that may have been too much to ask. What was also too much to ask was for him to lead the team in tackles, as he did in 1985. That is a symptom of New England's problem against the run and if it continues it will mean New England still has not solved its one defensive problem.

One place where there is no problem is on special teams, where kicker Tony Franklin is coming off his greatest season in which he led the NFL with 140 points, kicking three field goals a game for five consecutive weeks at midseason. He is one kicker who knows he can send out his laundry.

Meanwhile, punter Rich Camarillo finished third in the AFC with a 42.1 average, and that included two blocked kicks, something that had never happened to him before and probably won't again.

From top to bottom, this is a team that seems to be in its prime. If its runners get a chance to hit their stride—or even lengthen their stride—they should convert those "awesome capabilities" Berry sees into some fearsome football in 1987.□

MIAMI DOLPHINS

DOLPHINS DEFENSE LOOKS TO IMPROVE

BY LEO SUAREZ

Don Shula's jaw jutted an extra inch. The smile turned into a frown.

The conversation had turned to the problems the Miami Dolphins had encountered during the 1986 season and the coach was not in a festive mood. Mediocrity has never been a word associated with Shula's Dolphins, yet the 1986 season could be summed up in one word—mediocre.

From Shula and his coaching staff to his players and to the Dolphin fans who had enjoyed so many great seasons, 1986 was not one for the highlight films. Just when it seemed like the Dolphins would snap out of their doldrums, they'd drop deeper into trouble.

The Dolphins sputtered, stuttered, and stumbled to an 8-8 record and a third place finish in the AFC East. It was only the third time in Shula's career that Miami had finished that low in the division. Folks in the Magic City had problems coping with the Dolphins' fall from grace.

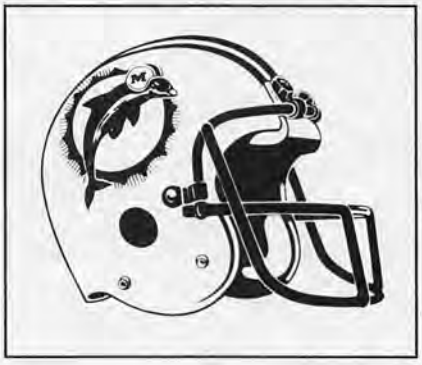
"It was a very difficult season," Shula said. "We just never got it going. Unlike years past when we would go on a winning streak and turn things around, we couldn't get on track. One week it was one thing, the next it was another."

Don't bet on the 1987 Dolphins, however, to follow the same pattern. Under Shula, the Dolphins bounced back to win the division the year after each of the two seasons they finished in third place.

The key to the Dolphins pulling off such a feat a third time lies in the team's defense. While the offense could use a more consistent running attack, the defense needs improvement at almost every position.

In an effort to improve a defense that finished 26th among 28 teams, Shula hired Tom Olivadotti away from the Browns to serve as the Dolphins' defensive coordinator. Chuck Studley, last year's defensive coordinator, remained on the staff as the team's linebacker coach.

But it will take more than a coaching



change for Miami's defense to improve.

"We've got a long way to go before we are close to being good enough defensively," Shula said. "We've got to have the young players improve and we need solid years from some of the veterans."

The Dolphins' problems on defense start up front. The defensive line made several mediocre running backs look like the second coming of Jim Brown last season. The pass rush was virtually nonexistent.

Nose tackles Bob Baumhower and Mike Charles were inconsistent at best. Baumhower, a five-time Pro Bowl selection, came back from a knee injury but never really looked like the nose tackle centers used to fear. Charles, who has the physical ability to become a dominating nose tackle, was hampered by weight and discipline problems.

"Charles has been inconsistent and overall disappointing," Shula said.

"Baumhower got over a major hurdle when he bounced back from knee surgery. By the end of the year he was playing better. But it's no secret we need a dominating lineman."

The Dolphins suffered through growing pains at the defensive end position. When veteran All-Pro Doug Betters held out last summer, Shula handed the left defensive end job to rookie T.J. Turner. The right defensive end position was manned by George Little, a second-year player from Iowa.

"They both showed improvement and that's what we were looking for," Shula said. "They are both big, strong young guys but both have a long way to go to get to the stage we feel they have to reach for us to be a better football team."

The Dolphins' linebacking corps is in better shape than the team's defensive line, but the key to this unit is whether veteran Hugh Green can come back from knee surgery.

"Green's loss really hurt us defensively," Shula said. "We invested a lot in the trade to get Hugh here and we're hoping he'll come back and be the kind of linebacker who can dominate a game."

With Green out of the lineup, the Dolphins relied heavily on rookie inside linebacker John Offerdahl. The team's second-round draft choice in 1986, Offerdahl ended up a starter in the Pro Bowl.

While Offerdahl was the Dolphins'

most consistent linebacker, Jackie Shipp, Bob Brudzinski, and Mark Brown were just the opposite. Shipp, the Dolphins' first-round selection in 1985, was benched the last two weeks of the season in favor of rookie Larry Kolic. If Shipp doesn't shape up in 1987, the Dolphins will most likely ship him out.

"It's definitely a very important year for Jackie," Shula said. "He has to show us he can play up to his potential this year."

Brudzinski, an 11-year veteran, started slow but finished strong. Brown actually surprised the Dolphins coaching staff with his performance as Green's replacement.

"We feel he'll improve even more now that he has confidence at outside linebacker," Shula said. "He did a good job of rushing the passer last year."

The Dolphins are hoping Kolic, who played just two games at inside linebacker in 1986, develops into a starter in 1987. But the key to Miami's season centers on Green. Team doctors are optimistic Green will be ready for Miami's regular season opener against the Patriots.

The shortcomings on defense weren't just limited to stopping the run. The Dolphins were horrible against the pass last year as well. Miami's safety tandem of Glenn Blackwood and Bud Brown lack speed and it showed in 1986.

The cornerbacks were average at best. William Judson is considered the team's best cornerback, but he did not come up with the big plays Shula had hoped for. But at least Judson was steady. Miami went through three left cornerbacks before settling on rookie Reyna Thompson late in the year.

Thompson's inexperience cost him, but the Dolphins' coaching staff was impressed with his ability.

"He came out of nowhere," Shula said. "We kept him because of his speed and he turned out to be one of the bright spots on defense."

Thompson, however, is recovering from shoulder surgery and will have to fight off veterans Paul Lankford and Don McNeal for the starting job.

While Miami's defense may need a major overhaul, its offense just needs some fine tuning. No matter how poorly the defense plays, the Dolphins are always a threat with Dan Marino quarterbacking and Mark Duper and Mark Clayton playing receiver.

Marino enjoyed another spectacular year in 1987, throwing for 4,746 yards and 44 touchdowns on 378 completions in 623 attempts. Clayton (1,150 yards) and Duper (1,311 yards) also had fine seasons.

With veteran Nat Moore leaning toward a 14th season and a more experienced James Pruitt on the roster, the Dolphins are all set at receiver. The same can be said about the quarterback position.

Marino was rewarded with a five-year, $8.6 million contract last season. Veteran Don Strock is Shula's security blanket and Jim Jensen is the team's jack-of-all-trades.

"What more can you say about Dan Marino?" Shula said. "Marino has done things no one has ever done before. And he has only played four seasons. If he plays long enough, he'll rewrite all the records."

Marino and his receivers, however, were a one-dimensional team for most of last season. The Dolphins lived and died by the pass and if Miami is going to make the playoffs this year, they'll need to beef up the offensive line, find a Pro Bowl tight end and improve its inconsistent running game.

Offensive line coach John Sandusky has done a masterful job patching up an offensive line that was riddled by injuries last year. The team is solid at center and left guard, where Dwight Stephenson and Roy Foster have become fixtures. Shula believes Stephenson will someday be recognized as the best center ever. Foster made the Pro Bowl for the second consecutive year last season.

But the Dolphins are still hurting at the tackle position and at right guard. Tackle Jon Giesler is coming off another knee surgery and his effectiveness is questionable for 1987. Miami was fortunate to be able to sign former Packer Greg Koch to help fill the void last year, but Koch is entering his 11th season and he is a short-term answer to the team's problems.

Playing guard opposite Foster is veteran Ronnie Lee, who showed signs of becoming a top-notch guard. The loss of guard Steve Clark to a knee injury also hurt Sandusky's linemen as did a nagging ankle injury that benched second-year lineman Jeff Dellenbach early last year.

The Dolphins' tight ends were also slowed by injuries. Fortunately, veteran Bruce Hardy stayed healthy and played the finest season of his 10-year career. Hardy caught 54 passes for 430 yards and five touchdowns. Dan Johnson, the Dolphins' "prototype" tight end, was once again slowed by an assortment of injuries and veteran Joe Rose was placed on injured reserve early in training camp with a torn hamstring.

"Bruce had a super year for us and we expect the same in 1987," Shula said. "But the key for us at tight end is Johnson. We need a bona fide effort from him."

The Dolphins' offense was ranked second in the league, but despite the lofty rating, Miami could have been more explosive had its running game been effective. Instead of setting up the pass with the run, the Dolphins were forced to set up the run with the pass.

Fullbacks Woody Bennett (162 yards) and Ron Davenport (314 yards) are coming off disappointing seasons and will be pressed to keep their jobs. Veteran Tony Nathan (203 yards and 48 receptions) lost his job to Lorenzo Hampton, who showed flashes of being the breakaway runner the Dolphins haven't had since Mercury Morris. Hampton must be more consistent in 1987 and improve on his 860 yards rushing.

"We can't rely on Marino to throw the ball on every down," Shula said. "I felt we progressed as the year went on last season. We need to build on that. We have to have balance on offense so defenses don't sit back and play the pass."

Not since the 1976 season, when Shula had his only losing season in Miami, have the Dolphins had so many holes to

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Roby**, Reggie	P	6-2	243	5	Iowa
7	**Reveiz**, Fuad	PK	5-11	222	3	Tennessee
10	**Strock**, Don	QB	6-5	225	14	Virginia Tech
11	**Jensen**, Jim	QB	6-4	215	7	Boston University
13	**Marino**, Dan	QB	6-4	214	5	Pittsburgh
22	**Nathan**, Tony	RB	6-0	206	9	Alabama
24	**Thompson**, Reyna	CB	5-11	194	1	Baylor
25	**Smith**, Mike	CB	6-0	171	3	Texas-El Paso
26	**Rose**, Donovan	S	6-1	190	3	Hampton Institute
27	**Hampton**, Lorenzo	RB	6-0	212	3	Florida
28	**Mc Neal**, Don	CB	5-11	192	7	Alabama
30	**Davenport**, Ron	FB	6-2	230	3	Louisville
32	**Brown**, Donald	CB	5-11	189	1	Maryland
33	**Ellis**, Craig	RB	5-11	180	2	San Diego State
34	**Bennett**, Woody	FB	6-2	225	9	Miami
40	**Kozlowski**, Mike	S	6-1	198	8	Colorado
43	**Brown**, Bud	S	6-0	194	4	Southern Mississippi
44	**Lankford**, Paul	CB	6-2	184	6	Penn State
47	**Blackwood**, Glenn	S	6-0	190	9	Texas
49	**Judson**, William	CB	6-2	190	6	South Carolina State
50	**Shipp**, Jackie	LB	6-2	236	4	Oklahoma
51	**Brown**, Mark	LB	6-2	230	5	Purdue
52	**Sendlein**, Robin	LB	6-3	225	7	Texas
53	**Frye**, David	LB	6-2	227	5	Purdue
55	**Green**, Hugh	LB	6-2	225	7	Pittsburgh
56	**Offerdahl**, John	LB	6-2	232	1	Western Michigan
57	**Stephenson**, Dwight	C	6-2	255	8	Alabama
59	**Brudzinski**, Bob	LB	6-4	223	11	Ohio State
61	**Foster**, Roy	G	6-4	275	6	Southern California
64	**Katolin**, Mike	C	6-3	270	1	San Jose State
65	**Dellenbach**, Jeff	T	6-6	280	3	Wisconsin
66	**Lee**, Larry	C	6-2	263	7	UCLA
68	**Koch**, Greg	T	6-4	276	11	Arkansas
70	**Sochia**, Brian	NT	6-3	274	5	N.W. Oklahoma
71	**Charles**, Mike	NT	6-4	287	3	Syracuse
72	**Lee**, Ronnie	G	6-4	265	9	Baylor
73	**Baumhower**, Bob	NT	6-5	265	10	Alabama
75	**Betters**, Doug	DE	6-7	265	10	Nevada-Reno
76	**Toth**, Tom	T	6-5	275	2	Western Michigan
79	**Giesler**, Jon	T	6-5	265	9	Michigan
80	**Rose**, Joe	TE	6-3	230	8	California
82	**Pruitt**, James	WR	6-2	199	1	Cal State-Fullerton
83	**Clayton**, Mark	WR	5-9	175	5	Louisville
84	**Hardy**, Bruce	LB	6-5	232	10	Arizona State
85	**Duper**, Mark	WR	5-9	187	6	Northwestern State (La)
87	**Johnson**, Dan	TE	6-3	240	5	Iowa State
89	**Moore**, Nat	WR	5-9	188	14	Florida
90	**Hendel**, Andy	LB	6-1	230	2	North Carolina State
91	**Robinson**, Fred	LB	6-5	238	4	Miami
94	**Kolic**, Larry	LB	6-1	242	1	Ohio State
95	**Turner**, T.J.	DE	6-4	265	1	Houston
99	**Little**, George	DE	6-4	278	2	Iowa

A confident, poised Dan Marino makes Miami's offense go

Mark Duper's sure hands make him a favorite target

fill. The key this year will be whether the Dolphins will have enough time to fill them before the season starts.

Miami opens with three of its first four games on the road and its home opener is against the Super Bowl champion New York Giants.

"We can't afford to get off to a slow start like we did last year," Shula said. "A schedule like ours makes the off-season and preseason all that much more important. We need to put it all together early to bounce back from last year."□

DOLPHINS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	DOLPHINS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	351	337
Rushing	84	144
Passing	250	177
Penalty	17	16
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	98/191	86/209
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	2/10	10/18
TOTAL NET YARDS	6324	6050
Avg. Per Game	395.3	378.1
Total Plays	1011	1058
Avg. Per Play	6.3	5.7
NET YARDS RUSHING	1545	2493
Avg. Per Game	96.6	155.8
Total Rushes	349	540
NET YARDS PASSING	4779	3557
Avg. Per Game	298.7	222.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	17/119	33/268
Gross Yards	4898	3825
Attempts/Completions	645/392	485/290
Pct. of Completions	60.8	59.8
Had Intercepted	23	13
PUNTS/AVERAGE	56/44.2	64/41.4
NET PUNTING AVG.	37.4	36.1
PENALTIES/YARDS	72/609	82/596
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	37/14	32/14
TOUCHDOWNS	56	47
Rushing	9	23
Passing	46	22
Returns	1	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
DOLPHINS TOTAL	45	177	102	100	6	430
Opp. Total	101	127	58	113	6	405

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Reveiz	1-1	5-5	4-6	3-8	1-2	14-22

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Hampton	186	830	4.5	54t	9
Davenport	75	314	4.2	35	0
Nathan	27	203	7.5	20	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Duper	67	1313	19.6	85t	11
Hampton	61	446	7.3	19	3
Clayton	60	1150	19.2	68t	10
Hardy	54	430	8.0	18t	5
Nathan	48	457	9.5	23t	2

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Rose	2	63	31.5	36	0
McNeal	2	46	23.0	29	0
G. Blackwood	2	10	5.0	7	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Roby	56	2476	44.2	9	13	73	0

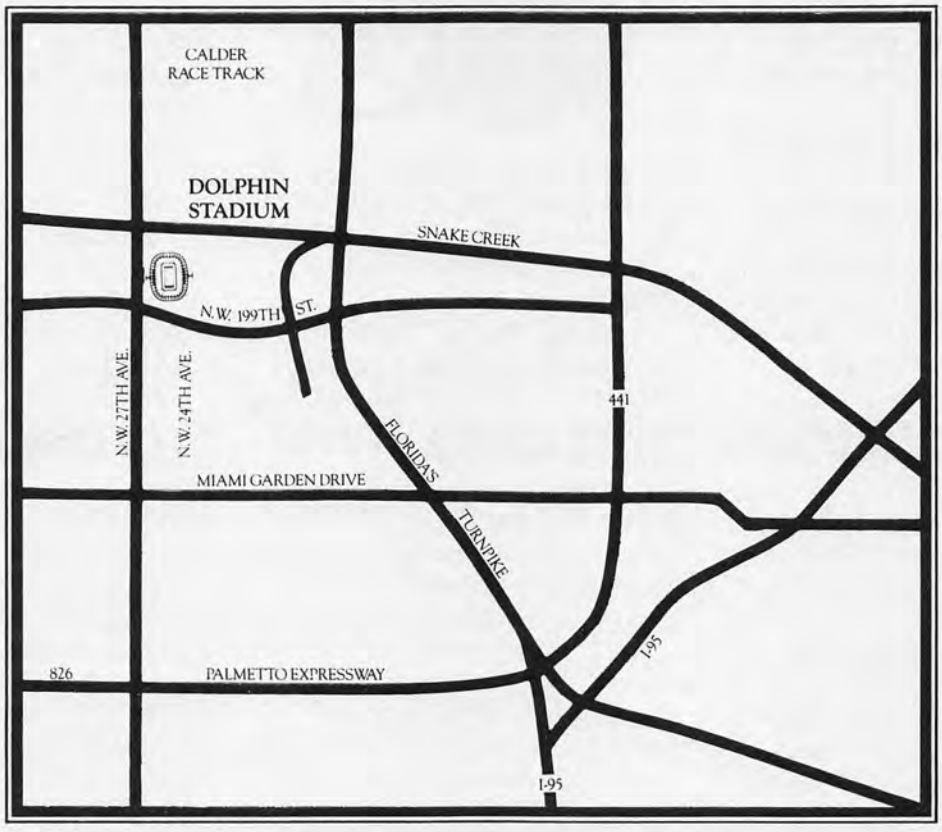
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ellis	24	1	149	6.2	17	0
Pruitt	11	1	150	13.6	71t	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Ellis	25	541	21.6	41	0
Davenport	16	285	17.8	37	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Marino	623	378	4746	60.7	7.62	44	7.1	23	3.7	85t	17/119	92.5
Strock	20	14	152	70.0	7.60	2	10.0	0	0.0	21	0/0	125.4

DOLPHINS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	John **BOSA** *DT*	6-4, 257	**Boston College**	'86 first team All-ECAC...125 tackles (84 solos), 10.5 sacks & 24 tackles for 89 yds. in losses...4 fmb. cau. & 1 fmb. rec. & 2 pass deflections.
2A	Rick **GRAF** *M-OLB*	6-5, 235	**Wisconsin**	'86 All-Big 10 second team...72 tackles (41 solos) with 4 sacks & 7 tackles for 41 yds. in losses...1 fmb. cau. & 3 fmb. rec's, 2 pass int's & 1 blked fg attpt.
2B	Scott **SCHWEDES** *WR-PR*	5-11, 171	**Syracuse**	School's all-time receiver in catches (139), ydg(2111) & TD's (16)...'86 All-ECAC & All-East first team...47 catches for 652 yds. & 6 TD's.
4	Troy **STRADFORD** *WR*	5-8, 189	**Boston College**	'86 first team All-ECAC..led team in rushing for the fourth time, gaining 1188 yds. on 218 carries (5.4 avg.) with 11 TD's....caught 31 passes for 445 yds.
5	Chris **CONLIN** *OT*	6-4, 280	**Penn St.**	'86 started all 12 games...had a 88% blocking grade on the year.
6	Lance **SELLERS** *DB*	6-2, 228	**Boise St.**	'86...73 tackles (38 solos), 27 tackles for losses, 1 fmb. rec.
7	Tom **BROWN** *FB*	6-1, 225	**Pittsburgh**	'86 third on team with 334 yds. on 70 carries & a TD...caught 20 passes for 138 yds.
8A	Joel **WILLIAMS** *TE*	6-4, 234	**Notre Dame**	'86 caught 13 passes for 138 yds. and 3 TD's.
8B	Mark **DENNIS** *OT*	6-6, 270	**Illinois**	'86 team's top linemen, receiving a 92% blocking grade on the year...chosen Academic All-Big 10 Conf.
9	Tim **PIDGEON** *ILB*	5-11, 238	**Syracuse**	'86 first team All-ECAC, despite missing 2 games with severe headaches...158 tackles (98 solos)...2 fmb. rec., int'ed a pass & deflected 4 others.
10	Bobby **TAYLOR** *DB*	5-9, 175	**Wisconsin**	'86...80 tackles (50 solos), 4 pass deflections.
11	Terence **MANN** *DT*	6-4, 273	**SMU**	'86...53 tackles (17 solos), 4 sacks, 1 fmb. cau.
12	Jim **KARSATOS** *QB*	6-3, 224	**Ohio St.**	'86 comp. 145 of 272 passes for 2122 yds. and 13 TD's with 10 int's.



BUFFALO BILLS

KELLY GIVES HOPE FOR A BETTER DAY

BY SCOTT PITONIAK

Jim Kelly was not God as one Rich Stadium banner blasphemously proclaimed at the 1986 season opener.

But the Buffalo Bill quarterback was a savior of sorts.

To a Rust Belt city battling high unemployment and a National Football League franchise facing fourth-and-long, Kelly represented hope that tomorrow just might be better than today.

"He gave us a starting point, a foundation to build on," said Bills General Manager Bill Polian. "He made us good enough to dream."

Kelly's impact was felt immediately in the stands, where the team's home attendance nearly doubled to 67,000 per game.

His impact on the standings was less dramatic. The Bills improved from 2-14 to 4-12, but those numbers told only part of the story. With the $8-million quarterback in charge, Buffalo became competitive again. Ten of their losses were by fewer than 11 points, and four mid-season defeats were by a combined total of 11 points.

"A couple of bounces here and there, we might have won nine or 10 games," said Kelly, who passed for 3,593 yards and 22 touchdowns in his first NFL season. "I really believe that we aren't that many players away from turning it around. And when we do, there won't be a better place to be than Buffalo."

The turnaround, however, might still be a year or two away. Kelly's supporting cast, especially defensively, leaves something to be desired, and the Bills 1987 schedule features one land mine after another. Buffalo will play both Super Bowl participants— the Giants and Denver—and four other play off qualifiers, including Cleveland and Washington.

"We play every super power except Red China on the road," joked Polian when asked what it felt like to have the league's second-toughest schedule.

Even if the Bills get off to a good start they'll have a difficult time sustaining it because five of their final seven games are on the road.

"Look at it this way," said Bills running back Robb Riddick, philosophically. "If we make the playoffs against this caliber of competition no one will be able to say it was a fluke."

One person eagerly awaiting the start of the season is Marv Levy, who went 2-5 after replacing Hank Bullough as head coach last November. The day after the season ended, Levy began cleaning house. He fired five assistants, and hired veteran NFL coach Ted Marchibroda as his passing game coordinator, former Southern Cal head coach Ted Tollner as his receivers coach and former Kansas City Chiefs assistant Walt Corey as his defensive coordinator.

There was criticism last season that Kelly wasn't being utilized properly, that the Bills play calling was too conservative.

"I don't know what they ran in the pass, but I favor a wide open unpredictable offense," said Marchibroda, who played a major role in the development of quarterback Bert Jones in Baltimore n the mid-1970's. "It will be an attacking offense. We'd be foolish not to attack with a quarterback of Kelly's ability."

Considering that he had only two weeks of training camp under his belt before the season opener, Kelly's '86 performance was remarkable. He had one of the league's best touchdown-to-interception ration (22-17), broke two of Joe Ferguson's club passing records and completed at least 50 percent of his attempts in every game.

"I can't think of a rookie quarterback who ever had as good a season," Levy said. "And the good thing is that Jim is still just scratching the surface. He's only going to get better."

Kelly's biggest weakness at this stage appears to be his ability to read defenses. Four times, the former USFL star threw interceptions over the middle that killed potential game-winning drives in the final minutes.

"I think most of those occurred early in the season," said Levy. "So there was improvement as the season progressed. We want to get Jim to the point where he makes his reads with machine-gun rapidity."

Levy hopes to take some of the

burden off Kelly with an effective ground game.

"You've got to be able to run the ball and like to run the ball," Levey said. "No team in the history of pro football that has led the league in passing has won the championship. I don't want too much emphasis on the run, however. I want balance."

The Bills have three talented runners in Riddick, Greg Bell and Ronnie Harmon, but Levy said he couldn't get a good read on any of them during the second half of last season because each player was battling injuries. Bell, the Bills leading rusher in '84 and '85 with a combined total of 1,983 yards, missed 10 games with a groin injury, and some of his teammates questioned his toughness. There were numerous off-season rumors that the Bills were attempting to trade the talented-but-moody runner, but nothing materialized.

Riddick, who spent half of his first five NFL seasons on the sidelines with an assortment of injuries, filled in admirably for Bell, accumulating 1,000 all-purpose yards. He played the second half of the season with a cast on his left wrist. Harmon, the Bills top draft pick in '86, saw only limited duty, and remains an unknown quantity.

Fullback seems set with the return of second-year player Carl Byrum, who won the starting job from Ricky Moore midway through the season and progressed with each game.

The Bills don't possess any world-class sprinters in their receiving corps, but they do have some productive young pass-catchers. Despite playing most of the season on a sore knee, Andre Reed caught 53 passes for a 13.9 average and seven touchdowns. Chris Burkett, who missed several games with a dislocated elbow, was Kelly's favorite deep threat with 35 catches for a 22.9 average and four scores, including a long of 84 yards against Cincinnati.

Veteran Jerry Butler (15 catches, two touchdowns) broke his leg in last November's Miami game, but his off-season rehabilitation has gone well, and he is expected to return.

"If he's healthy, he definitely will play a major role with us," Levy said of the 29-year-old Butler. "There are many receivers—Frank Lewis, Charlie Joiner, Fred Biletnikoff, Steve Largent, the list goes on and on—who have had productive years into their 30's. There's no reason why Jerry can't either."

Levy also will take a long look at Jimmy Teal and Mitchell Brookins, two fleet-footed wideouts who have yet to live up to their potential because of injuries.

Pete Metzelaars, a 6-7, 240-pound tight end, was on the Bills' endangered species list at the start of last year's training camp. He wound up making the team and setting a Buffalo record for receptions by a tight end (49). He'll probably be backed up at the position by Bob Williams, a seventh-round pick from Penn State who spent all of '86 on the injured reserve list.

Before signing with Buffalo last August, Kelly expressed doubts about the quality of the team's offensive line. He, and just about everybody else associated with the Bills, wound up being pleasantly suprised with the unit's development under line coach Jim Ringo.

Will Wolford, the second of Buffalo's two first-round picks in '86, reported to camp out of shape, but was forced into the lineup because of injuries. After a difficult start against Joe Klecko, the Jets' All-Pro nose tackle, Wolford settled down and had a solid season, earning All-Rookie honors at right guard.

Another overachiever was USFL-defector Ken Hull, who took over the starting center job for good when Tim Vogler was hurt during training camp.

Joe Devlin had another All-Pro caliber season at right tackle, while Jim Ritcher was consistent as the left guard. Veteran Ken Jones played better than expected at left tackle despite being hobbled by a chronic knee problem. The Bills tried Vogler at tackle when Jones was forced to the sidelines late in the season, but Levy indicated that the experiment wasn't a success. He said Vogler probably will battle for a starting job at either center or guard, and that Dale Hallestrae will be tried at tackle, along with Greg Christy, who has spent most of his first two NFL seasons on the injured reserve list.

Former Nebraska All-American Mark Traynowicz impressed Levy during the second half of the season, and could battle for one of the guard spots.

"He's improving and has a chance to help us," Levy said. "You could see his improvement in the daily one-on-one pass blocking drills. He used to get beat like a drum and have his chin down as a result, but not any more."

Levy is hopeful that the addition of Corey and some new players in the lineup will turn the anemic Bills defense into a big-play unit. Last season, the Bills finished last in the NFL in takeaways (18) and interceptions (10). By comparison, San Francisco 49ers' defensive back Ronnie Lott had 10 interceptions all by himself.

"I have never seen a team as bad as we were at taking the ball away from the opposition," Levy said. "You can't win championships if you don't force turnovers."

Corey's Kansas City defense allowed the second-fewest yards in the AFC last year and led the league in takeaways.

"How do you think the Chiefs made it to the playoffs," Levy said. "Their offense was last in the NFL, but the defense and special teams were among the league's best."

One Bills defender with big-play capabilities is right end Bruce Smith. When Buffalo made Smith the NFL's top overall draft pick in 1985, owner Ralph Wilson predicted the former Virginia Tech star would have the same impact on the Bills' defense that Mean Joe Green had on the famed Pittsburgh Steelers' defense of the late 1970s and early '80s.

Smith struggled during his rookie season, but he started to fullfil Wilson's prophecy last fall when he recorded a club-record 15 sacks.

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
4	**Kidd**, John	P	6-3	205	4	Northwestern
8	**Gelbaugh**, Stan	QB	6-3	207	3	Maryland
11	**Norwood**, Scott	K	6-0	206	3	James Madison
12	**Kelly**, Jim	QB	6-3	215	2	Miami
13	**McClure**, Brian	QB	6-6	222	2	Bowling Green
14	**Reich**, Frank	QB	6-3	210	3	Maryland
23	**Williams**, Kevin	CB	5-9	170	3	Iowa State
26	**Romes**, Charles	CB	6-1	191	11	N. Carolina Central
27	**Pitts**, Ron	CB-S	5-10	175	3	UCLA
28	**Bell**, Greg	RB	5-10	210	4	Notre Dame
29	**Burroughs**, Derrick	CB	6-1	182	3	Memphis State
33	**Harmon**, Ronnie	RB	5-11	193	2	Iowa
34	**Wilkins**, Gary	FB	6-1	240	2	Georgia Tech
35	**Byrum**, Carl	FB	6-0	234	1	Mississippi Valley
36	**Bellinger**, Rodney	CB	5-8	183	4	Miami
38	**Kelso**, Mark	FS	5-11	183	2	William & Mary
40	**Riddick**, Robb	RB	6-0	198	5	Millersville, PA
41	**Clark**, Steve	S	6-3	186	2	Liberty University
43	**Bayless**, Martin	SS	6-2	195	4	Bowling Green
45	**Drane**, Dwight	S	6-1	200	3	Oklahoma
48	**Johnson**, Lawrence	S	5-11	202	8	Wisconsin
49	**King**, Bruce	FB	6-1	219	4	Purdue
50	**Bentley**, Ray	LB	6-2	250	3	Central Michigan
51	**Ritcher**, Jim	C	6-3	265	8	North Carolina State
52	**Seawright**, James	LB	6-2	219	2	South Carolina
53	**Furjanic**, Tony	ILB	6-1	235	1	Notre Dame
54	**Marve**, Eugene	ILB	6-2	240	6	Saginaw Valley
55	**Haslett**, Jim	LB	6-3	236	9	Indiana
56	**Talley**, Darryl	OLB	6-4	232	5	West Virginia
57	**Sanford**, Lucius	LB	6-2	220	11	Georgia Tech
58	**Cumby**, George	ILB	6-1	220	8	Oklahoma
60	**Melka**, Jim	LB	6-1	228	2	Wisconsin
61	**Burton**, Leonard	C	6-3	250	1	South Carolina
62	**Traynowicz**, Mark	G	6-5	275	3	Nebraska
63	**Cross**, Justin	T	6-6	277	6	Western Colorado
64	**Pike**, Mark	LB	6-4	257	2	Georgia Tech
65	**Vogler**, Tim	G-T-C	6-3	285	10	Ohio State
67	**Hull**, Kent	C	6-4	262	2	Mississippi State
68	**Ploeger**, Kurt	DE	6-5	260	3	Gustavus Adolphus
69	**Christy**, Greg	G	6-4	285	3	Pittsburgh
70	**Devlin**, Joe	T	6-5	280	11	Iowa
71	**Hellestrae**, Dale	T	6-5	270	3	SMU
72	**Jones**, Ken	T	6-5	285	12	Arkansas State
73	**Wolford**, Will	T	6-5	276	1	Vanderbilt
74	**Smith**, Don	NT	6-5	262	10	Miami
75	**Hamby**, Mike	DT	6-4	270	2	Utah State
76	**Smerlas**, Fred	NT	6-3	280	9	Boston College
78	**Smith**, Bruce	DE	6-4	275	3	Virginia Tech
79	**Prater**, Dean	DE	6-4	256	5	Oklahoma State
80	**Butler**, Jerry	WR	6-0	180	8	Clemson
81	**Brookins**, Mitchell	WR	5-11	196	4	Illinois
82	**Richardson**, Eric	WR	6-1	188	3	San Jose State
83	**Reed**, Andre	WR	6-0	188	3	Kutztown
84	**Kern**, Don	TE	6-4	235	4	Arizona St.
85	**Burkett**, Chris	WR	6-4	202	3	Jackson State
86	**Teal**, Jimmy	WR	5-10	170	4	Texas A&M
87	**Rolle**, Butch	TE	6-3	242	1	Michigan State
88	**Metzelaars**, Pete	TE	6-7	245	6	Wabash
89	**Tasker**, Steve	WR-KR	5-9	185	4	Northwestern
94	**Witt**, Billy	DE	6-5	265	2	North Alabama
95	**McNanie**, Sean	DE	6-5	270	4	San Diego State
99	**Garner**, Hal	OLB	6-4	225	3	Utah State

Sean McNanie also showed improvement at the other end with a career-high 6 1-2 sacks in '86, and veteran nose tackle Fred Smerlas flashed the form that made him a four-time All-Pro (1980-83) during last season's stretch run.

Linebacking was a sore spot for the Bills, especially on the outside. Veteran Lucius Stanford battled a back injury, and his replacement, Hal Garner, didn't set the world on fire. Darryl Talley had the best season of his career, but he still hasn't become the dominant player on the pro level that he had been at West Virginia. Buffalo received only three quarterback sacks from its outside backers, about a seventh of the total amassed by Giants All-Pro Lawrence Taylor.

The Bills were hurt at inside linebacker last fall when defensive quarterback Jim Haslett broke his leg in three places during the exhibition finale against the Chicago Bears. His leg has healed completely, and he should be ready to battle for his old positon by training camp.

Haslett's main competition will come from Ray Bentley, who broke into the starting lineup after Levy became coach and played well down the stretch. Bentley's play was a major factor in the Bills' marked improvement against the run. Eugene Marve, the team's leading tackler, will hold down the other inside spot.

Buffalo's Jim Kelly must prove his worth

Defensive end Bruce Smith is always close to action

There could be several changes in the Bills' secondary. Last March, Buffalo traded free safety Steve Freeman, the team's all-time leader in games played, to Minnesota.

Dwight Drane, a former star in the USFL, may switch from strong safety, unless Levy decides to go with Martin Bayless at Freeman's spot. There's also talk that former UCLA star Ronnie Pitts will be tried at one of the safety positions if he doesn't win a job at cornerback.

Speaking of cornerback, this could be a make-or-break year for Derrick Burroughs, the Bills other first-round pick in 1985. Burroughs has been hampered by injuries and a lack of self-confidence his first two seasons.

"I think he has a chance of becoming a very good player," Levy said. "He's very uptight. He feels the spotlight on him a little bit. He may be pressing. Maybe that's something that will be taken care of with a little more experience."

The other corner has been handled by 32-years-old veteran Charlie Romes for the past decade, but his job could be in jeopardy. Romes showed signs of slipping last season after an excellent '85 campaign.

Levy, a former assistant under George Allen, is a perfectionist when it comes to special teams. He will attempt to eliminate the special team blunders which cost the Bills at least two games last season by bringing in players who have a history of excelling at things such as kick coverage and returns.

The Buffalo kicking game appeared to be on solid ground until last season. Scott Norwood, who made a team-record 10-consecutive field goals in '85, converted only two of seven field goals down the stretch last season and his short kickoffs bothered Levy.

Punter John Kidd also has an off year. After setting an NFL record with 33 punts inside the oppositon's 20 in 1985, Kidd managed only 16 coffin-corner boots last year.

"We by no means have given up on either," Levy said. "But we will be taking a look at some additional kickers in camp."□

BILLS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	BILLS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	291	334
Rushing	101	100
Passing	152	204
Penalty	38	30
3rd Down: Made/Att.	60/185	79/216
4th Down: Made/Att.	8/14	11/17
TOTAL NET YARDS	5017	5523
Avg. Per Game	313.6	345.2
Total Plays	963	1071
Avg. Per Play	5.2	5.2
NET YARDS RUSHING	1654	1721
Avg. Per Game	103.4	107.6
Total Rushes	419	465
NET YARDS PASSING	3363	3802
Avg. Per Game	210.2	237.6
Tackled/Yards Lost	45/334	36/267
Gross Yards	3697	4069
Attempts/Completions	499/294	570/343
Pct. of Completions	58.9	60.2
Had Intercepted	19	10
PUNTS/AVERAGE	75/40.4	83/38.1
NET PUNTING AVG.	34.5	33.4
PENALTIES/YARDS	121/878	128/1098
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	40/20	19/8
TOUCHDOWNS	34	40
Rushing	9	18
Passing	22	21
Returns	3	1

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
BILLS	51	87	71	78	0	287
Opp. Total	70	91	69	115	3	348

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Norwood	1-1	6-6	7-7	3-8	0-5	17-27

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Riddick	150	632	4.2	t41	4
Bell	90	377	4.2	42	4
Kelly	41	199	4.9	20	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Reed	53	739	13.9	t55	7
Metzelaars	49	485	9.9	t44	3
Riddick	49	468	9.6	t31	1
Burkett	34	778	22.9	t84	4
Moore	23	184	8.0	27	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Romes	4	23	5.8	23	0
Burroughs	2	49	24.5	41	0
Bellinger	1	14	14.0	14	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Kidd	75	3031	40.4	9	14	57	0

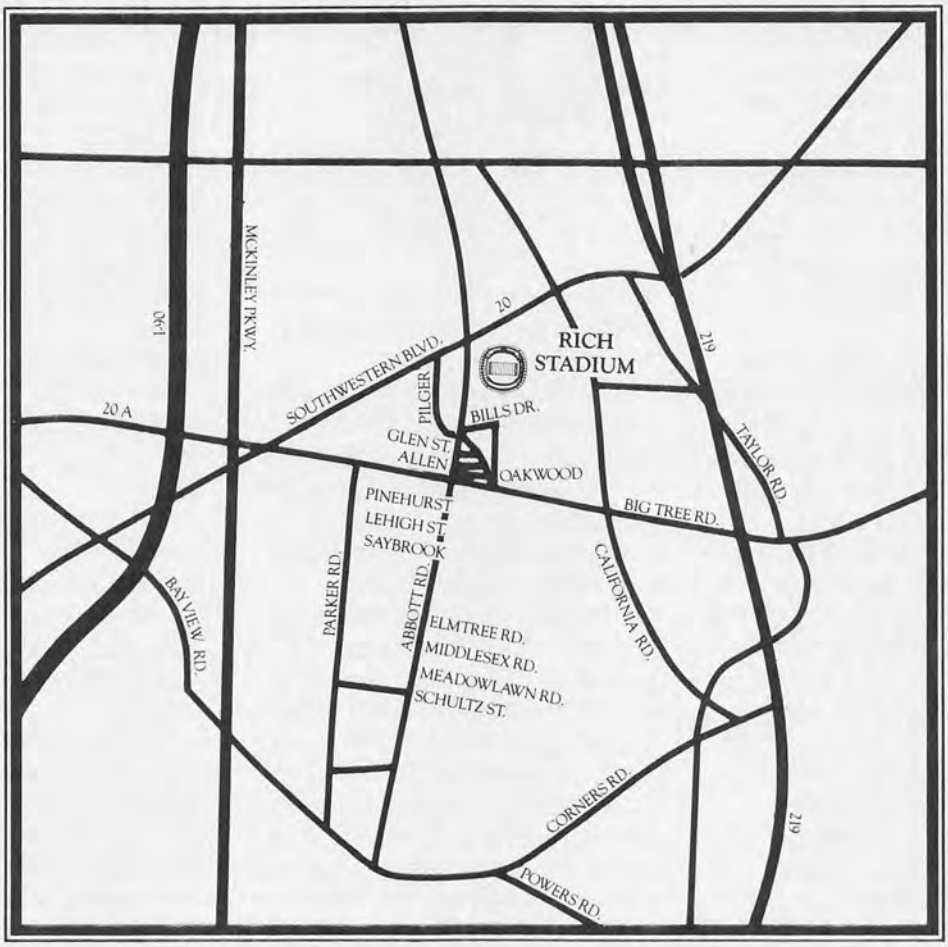
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Pitts	18	11	194	10.8	t49	1
Broughton	12	2	53	4.4	13	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Harmon	18	321	17.8	32	0
Tasker	9	148	16.4	24	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Kelly	480	285	3593	59.4	7.49	22	4.6	17	3.5	84	43/330	83.3
Reich	19	9	104	47.4	5.47	0	0.0	2	10.5	37	2/4	24.8

BILLS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Shane **CONLAN** *OLB*	6-3, 222	**Penn St.**	'86 first team All-American...79 tackles (63 solos), 5 sacks & 13 tackles for 64 yds. in losses...1 fmb.cau. & fmb. rec., int. a pass & 6 others deflected.
2A	Nate **ODOMES** *CB*	5-10, 186	**Wisconsin**	'86 All-Big 10...All-American...7 int's, 68 tackles (53 solos), 7 pass deflections, 2 blked kicks.
2B	Roland **MITCHELL** *CB*	5-11, 180	**Texas Tech**	'86 second team All-SWC...65 tackles (38 solos)...3 fmb. rec. & 1 fmb. cau...4 pass deflections & 3 int's.
3A	Dave **BRANDON** *LB*	6-4, 221	**Memphis St.**	'86...81 tackles (44 solos), 4 fmb. rec., 8 passes blocked, 7 tackles for losses of 36 yds., 2 int's.
3B	Jamie **MUELLER** *HB*	6-2, 229	**Benedictine College**	'86 second team All-American, NAIA Division II...1184 yds. on 169 carries (7.0 avg.) & 15 TD's.
4	Leon **SEALS** *DE*	6-4, 249	**Jackson St.**	'86 first team All-SWAC...missed 3 games with ankle injury...led team in tackles for losses with 16 for 64 yds. & in sacks with 10...3 fmb. rec., 2 fmb. cau. & deflected a pass.
7	Kerry **PORTER** *FB-TB*	6-1, 205	**Washington St.**	'86 second team All-Pac 10...led the team in rushing with 921 yds. on 205 carries (4.5 avg.) & 4 TD's.
8	Bruce **MESNER** *NG-DE*	6-5, 279	**Maryland**	'86 first team All-ACC, despite missing 4 games after suffering a bruised foot...57 tackles (29 solos).
9	Keith **McKELLER** *TE*	6-6, 225	**Jacksonville St.**	'86 first team All-Gulf South Conf. football & basketball...26 recpts. for 449 yds., 3 TD's.
11	Howard **BALLARD** *OT*	6-7, 300	**Alabama A&M**	'86 All-SIAC first team, 2 yr. starter, 5.06-40 yd. time.
12	Joe **McGRAIL** *DT*	6-3, 280	**Delaware**	'86 All-Yankee Conf., All-East, 62 tackles (24 solos), 8 sacks.



INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

MEYER AND HOGEBOOM TRY TO WIN

BY LEN PASQUARELLI

The key personality for the Indianapolis Colts looks like he stepped off the cover of Gentleman's Quarterly instead of the practice field, hails from the Midwest heartland of America but talks with the twang of a Madison Avenue cowboy, quotes Bum Phillips more than Shakespeare and sells motivation as if it were a miracle cure.

Most importantly, he wins football games.

NFL, get reacquainted with Ron Meyer, a man who's fixing to turn things around in a town once noted for little more than its annual 500-mile automobile race.

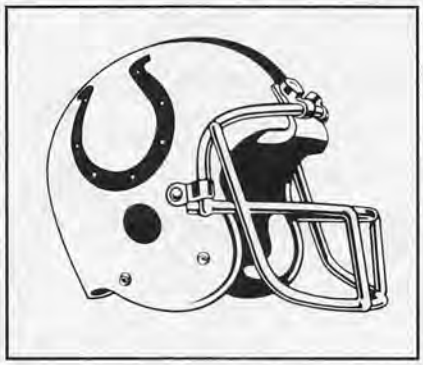
When Colts' owner Robert Irsay replaced oh-for-'86 head coach Rod Dowhower with Meyer, 13 torturous games into last season, he was hoping to do more than just change the last letter on the back of his headman's coaching jacket.

After battling with the cerebral and terminally-bland Dowhower for a baker's dozen worth of weeks, Irsay longed for a return to a Frank Kush-type Parris Island discipline for a team whose talent far surpassed its won-loss record.

What the eccentric and oft-maligned Irsay got instead was Fantasy Island, with Meyer, the only coach in the history of the NFL ever to be fired at midseason with a winning record—5-3 with the Patriots at the halfway point in 1984—proving, if not a miracle man in a surprise three-game winning skein, at the very least a peddler of positive thinking.

"The biggest difference (between Dowhower and Meyer)," analyzed veteran Colts safety Nesby Glasgow, following the team's season-ending upset of the Raiders, "is that Rod was very pragmatic. He'd come in at halftime and say, 'Now, if we don't do this, this and this, we're not going to win.'

"Ron comes in and is totally positive. It's more like, 'We're going to take the ball and score, our defense is going to stop them on three downs, force a punt and we're going to score again.' He just



doesn't let you get into that negative mindset."

Given the Colts record over the past decade—48-102-1, second worst in the league during that period—and the fact they've not been above .500 since 1977 and have won seven or more games just three times, a negative funk would seem not only inevitable but terminal.

But the fiery Meyer provided a base to build on in the last three games, and he's now got Colts players believing that, even if they can't quite turn the corner in '87, they can at least get close enough to sneak a peek around the wall.

If the nebbish Irsay can continue to keep his meddling to a minimum, Meyer, a coach who's successfully rebuilt programs everywhere he's been, could be the man to get this laughingstock franchise over the hump.

But he'll need plenty of help, mostly from quarterback Gary Hogeboom, the former Dallas Cowboy signal-caller who missed 11 games of the '86 season with a separated right shoulder.

If the Colts' offense, rated No. 22 in the league last year, is to move beyond the lethargy of recent campaigns, Hogeboom is definitely the key.

"He's a guy who provides a lot of leadership," says Meyer. "I think the players really respect him for coming back last season for those last three games when he could have just taken the rest of the time off. Gary doesn't take the easy way out, though. He's a player and he wants to be on the field making something happen."

During the unexpected three-game winning streak, Hogeboom made plenty happen. Even with a rusty right arm, in Meyer's controlled spread-the-wealth offense, designed to use every weapon, he completed 23 passes to wide receivers, 20 to tight ends and 14 to running backs.

That kind of equal-opportunity aerial game will have to continue, especially now that the Colts have lost starting running back Randy McMillan (severely fractured left leg when hit by a car in late April) for the entire season and maybe forever.

The Colts set team records for pass attempts (586) and yardage (3,615) last season, but much of that came when they were hopelessly out of games or when rookie passer Jack Trudeau, thrust into an untenable situation after the injury

to Hogeboom, just couldn't get an adequate offensive mix operating.

Trudeau is a mostly short, control passer, who played better than expected given the lack of preparation time—three games into his NFL debut season he found himself at the helm of a team picked by some to qualify for the playoffs— and he should be a more-than adequate backup to Hogeboom.

What Meyer is hoping for is more efficiency, not productivity. If the impression Hogeboom left at the end of '86 can carry over, he may get it.

Blessed with a strong, but sometimes scattershot, arm and the ability to buy himself time with his feet, Hogeboom still needs to improve his reads and his patience.

No one's questioning his toughness, just his maturity. No one's also questioning that Meyer would love for his quarterback to stamp this team with his hard-nosed, whatever-it-takes character.

Or, in short, he wants Hogey to prove he's a hero, not a sub.

Hogeboom does have a slow-but-sure pair of wideouts to throw to in Matt Bouza (career-high 71 receptions in '86) and Bill Brooks (65 catches for 1,131 yards and eight touchdowns).

Bouza runs tight, well-disciplined underneath patterns while Brooks prefers the outcuts and deep routes. Neither is afraid of contact. Despite his lack of true burner's speed (4.55-4.6) Brooks manages one deep catch a game, it seems, mostly by simply wanting the ball more than opposition cornerbacks. He had six of the team's longest catches in '86.

Still, the Colts need someone to stretch zones and at least plant a seed of impending peril in the minds of enemy secondaries, and, of the current roster, only Walter Murray, a monumental flop (two catches for 34 yards) after coming over in a trade with the Redskins, seems the most likely—read that only—candidate.

Next to Hogeboom, the emergence of a hopefully-matured Murray could give the Colts offense the biggest lift.

The tight ends could also come in for more action with Meyer now calling the shots. None of the incumbent trio of Pat Beach, Mark Boyer or Tim Sherwin really possess the blocking/hands combo he wants for his two-tight end attack, but all three have something going for them and Meyer will continue to shuffle the three.

As for a running game, Meyer may have to rely on a rebuilt offensive line since, in McMillan, he lost the team's leading rusher for five of the last six seasons.

McMillan was probably getting close to the bottom of his tank, and some people around the league considered him an "old 29," but he was still the best of an average lot of ball-toters.

Meyer would love for his quarterback to stamp this team with his hard-nosed, whatever-it-takes character. Or, in short, he wants Hogey to prove he's a hero, not a sub.

His injury means Albert Bentley, a tackle-to-tackle type of runner with a little more explosiveness than McMillan will inherit the one-back spot.

Bentley's got powerful legs and good drive, but it may not matter, since the running game woes are not all traceable to the guys hugging the ball anyway.

The Colts averaged just 3.7 yards per carry in '86, got just a single 100-yard effort (Bentley's 162-yard explosion in the final game of the season), totalled only 77 rushing first downs, had just 10 rushing scores and went over the combined 100-yard mark for a game a puny four times.

The fickle finger of blame points in all directions.

Under Dowhower, the running game was virtually abandoned. The backs lack quickness and the ability to get in and out of a hole and into the secondary. The line? Ah, yes, the line.

In left tackle Chris Hinton, slated to move inside to left guard this season, and center Ray Donaldson, the Colts possess two dogged blockers of Pro Bowl stature. The problem is that the other three starters feature all the consistency of oatmeal.

Meyer is hoping to get some big—as in 300-pound — people-movers to play tackle, feeling that, with Hinton, Donaldson and right guard Ron Solt, he's got a solid interior trio.

"You can improve a running game several ways and the loss of McMillan won't help us, but we're determined to move the ball on the ground," said Meyer. "Our weight program has bulked some people up (right tackle Kevin Call, who played at 288 in '86 was to 311 pounds at last glance) and we think our backs will accept the challenge of taking up the slack for Randy."

If they can, it will take much of the pressure off a defense that starts a half dozen former No. 1 picks and is closer to respectable than people realize.

"I think our defense played well enough to have won several more games last season," said Meyer. "We can help them by giving them a little more offensive support and they can help themselves, I think, by creating a little more pressure on the quarterback. Our secondary was forced to cover in some tough situations last season, but if we get in the passer's face, those guys will sure look a lot better."

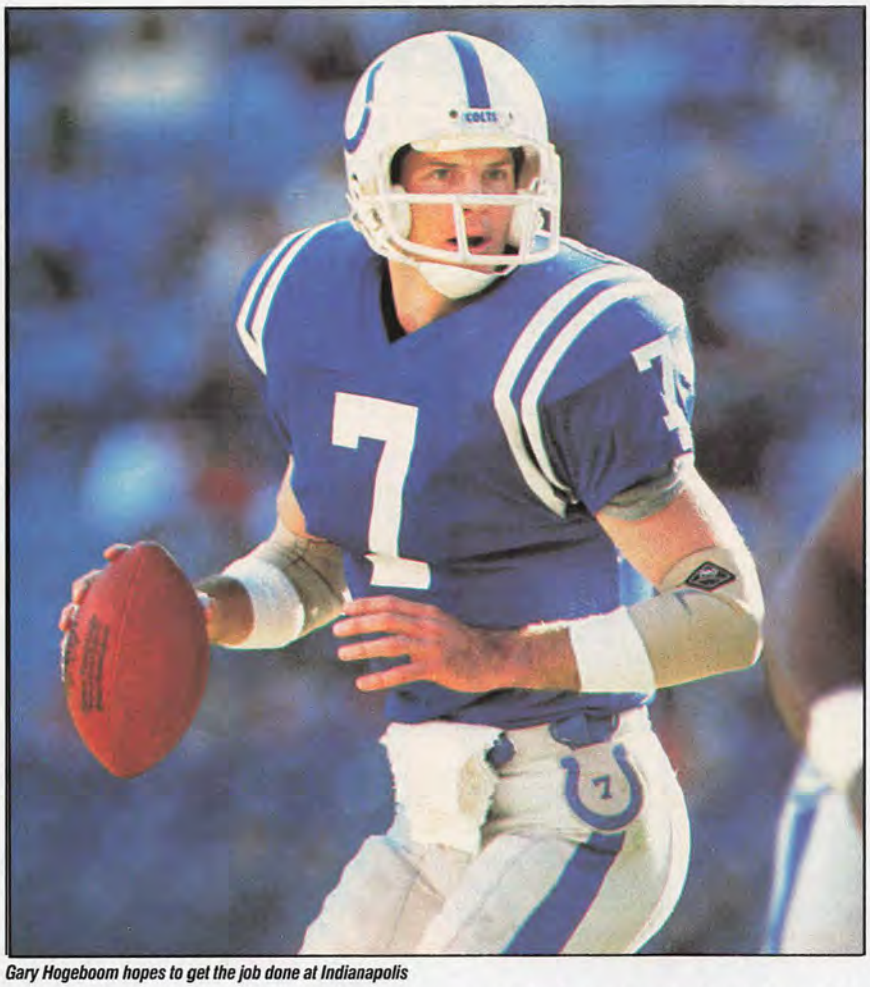
Getting to the passer has become the rallying cry for a unit that dumped opposition quarterbacks on their keesters just 24 times in '86, the NFL's second-worst total.

Hope is that Jon Hand, last season's first-round choice, will pick up where he left off last year, when, after a half-season of wandering through the NFL wilderness at defensive end, he began whacking on offensive tackles and racking up sacks.

Hand's counterpart, Donnell

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Stark**, Rohn	P	6-3	195	6	Florida State
4	**Biasucci**, Dean	K-P	6-0	190	3	Western Carolina
5	**Kiel**, Blair	QB	6-0	200	3	Notre Dame
7	**Hogeboom**, Gary	QB	6-4	205	8	Central Michigan
10	**Trudeau**, Jack	QB	6-3	210	1	Illinois
20	**Bentley**, Albert	RB	5-11	210	3	Miami
21	**Holt**, John	CB	5-11	180	7	West Texas State
23	**Daniel**, Kenny	CB	5-10	180	3	San Jose State
25	**Glasgow**, Nesby	FS	5-10	184	9	Washington
29	**Hicks**, Dwight	S	6-1	192	9	Michigan
31	**Coleman**, Leonard	CB	6-2	197	3	Vanderbilt
32	**McMillian**, Randy	FB	6-0	190	7	Pittsburgh
34	**Wonsley**, George	RB	6-0	215	3	Mississippi State
35	**Randle**, Tate	S	6-0	204	6	Texas Tech
38	**Daniel**, Eugene	CB	6-0	180	3	Louisiana State
40	**Ballage**, Pat	S	6-1	200	1	Notre Dame
44	**Gill**, Owen	FB	6-1	232	3	Iowa
45	**Sims**, Tommy	SS	6-0	190	1	Tennessee
50	**Bickett**, Duane	OLB	6-5	241	3	Southern California
53	**Donaldson**, Ray	C	6-4	282	8	Georgia
55	**Krauss**, Barry	ILB	6-3	247	9	Alabama
56	**Hunley**, LaMonte	ILB	6-2	235	3	Arizona
57	**Ahrens**, Dave	ILB	6-3	240	7	Wisconsin
58	**Redd**, Glenn	LB	6-1	232	6	Brigham Young
59	**Lowery**, Orlando	OLB	6-4	230	3	Ohio State
63	**Kirchner**, Mark	G	6-3	265	4	Baylor
64	**Utt**, Ben	G	6-5	281	6	Georgia Tech
66	**Solt**, Ron	G	6-5	263	7	Maryland
67	**Caron**, Roger	G	6-5	270	3	Harvard
68	**Broughton**, Willie	NT	6-5	277	3	Miami
71	**Call**, Kevin	T	6-7	290	3	Colorado State
72	**Baldischwiler**, Karl	T	6-5	276	9	Oklahoma
74	**Brotzki**, Bob	OT	6-5	269	1	Syracuse
75	**Hinton**, Chris	T	6-4	286	5	Northwestern
78	**Hand**, Jon	DE	6-6	280	1	Alabama
79	**Armstrong**, Harvey	DE	6-3	255	5	Southern Methodist
80	**Brooks**, Bill	WR	5-11	190	1	Boston Univ.
81	**Beach**, Pat	TE	6-4	240	5	Washington State
83	**Sherwin**, Tim	TE	6-6	245	7	Boston College
84	**Boyer**, Mark	TE	6-4	233	3	Southern California
85	**Bouza**, Matt	WR	6-3	211	6	California
86	**Murray**, Walter	WR	6-4	200	1	Hawaii
87	**Harbour**, James	WR	6-0	190	2	Mississippi
90	**Haines**, John	DE	6-7	260	3	Texas
92	**Leiding**, Jeff	LB	6-3	232	2	Texas
93	**Odom**, Clifton	ILB	6-2	233	7	Texas-Arlington
94	**Kellar**, Scott	NT	6-3	278	1	North Illinois
98	**Cooks**, Johnie	OLB	6-4	246	6	Mississippi State
99	**Thompson**, Donnell	DE	6-5	263	7	North Carolina
	Anderson, Pete	OG	6-4	282	R	Georgia
	Clinkscale, Dextor	S	5-11	195	7	S. Carolina State
	Martin, Robbie	WR	5-8	187	7	Cal Poly-Slo
	Reilly, Dameon	WR	5-11	179	R	Rhode Island



Gary Hogeboom hopes to get the job done at Indianapolis

Thompson, has been accused of underachieving, but is solid against the run, coming of age on the pass rush and a team leader most of the younger players respect.

It's at nose tackle where the Colts have a hole they hope second-year pro Scott Kellar can fill. Kellar has pumped enough iron to be up to 295, but is still more stopgap than stopper.

It's at linebacker where, if Barry Krauss' surgically-repaired knee is sound, the Colts' defense figures to make great strides.

Outside linebacker Johnie Cooks and Duane Bickett are both first-rounders, Bickett on the rise, Cooks on the level.

Neither is an outstanding blitz/coverage combo type of guy, but both are solid, particularly Bickett, who's certain to be an All-Pro within the next couple seasons.

The former USC star is technically proficient, never out of position and kind of a quiet assassin in his own way. Cooks' flamboyance sometimes gets in the way of solid play, but if the Colts ever figure out a way to unleash his great potential, they'll have a good one.

Krauss' return will only make unspectacular blue-collar type Cliff Odom a better player.

"I'd like to have a team of Cliff Odoms," said Dowhower before departing. "He's a plugger."

So is Krauss, if he's right, which is doubtful, especially after four surgical procedures in seven months.

The Indy secondary lacks speed and identity, with a lot of clones running around.

Eugene Daniel is the best of the corners, and Leonard Coleman, who's looked lost on the corner, will move inside to strong safety where his size and hitting ability will be put to better use.

Meyer would like to find another solid cover type and that could be John Holt, who replaces Coleman at left corner.

On a whole, it's an undistinguished backline that could benefit from an overall upgrading of the front seven.

But, realistically, that can be said of most of the team.

"I think we could be on the verge of doing something pretty good with this team," says Meyer. "There's more talent here than people realize. We just need to find a way to bring it all out. If we can do that, we'll be OK."

If Meyer can do that, he'll have resurrected another faltering program.□

Colts' Ron Meyer looks for success

COLTS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	COLTS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	278	334
Rushing	77	123
Passing	173	185
Penalty	28	26
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	78-225 34.7%	86-206 41.7%
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	10-29 34.5%	1-5 20.0%
TOTAL NET YARDS	4700	5701
Avg. Per Game	293.8	356.3
Total Plays	1046	1051
Avg. Per Play	4.5	5.4
NET YARDS RUSHING	1491	1962
Avg. Per Game	93.2	122.6
Total Rushes	407	517
NET YARDS PASSING	3209	3739
Avg. Per Game	200.6	233.7
Tackled/Yards Lost	53/406	24/194
Gross Yards	3615	3933
Attempts/Completions	586/300	510/306
Pct. of Completions	51.2	60.0
Had Intercepted	24	16
PUNTS/AVERAGE	81/44.7	67/40.5
NET PUNTING AVG.	36.9	35.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	100/885	99/723
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	41/20	40/19
TOUCHDOWNS	27	47
Rushing	10	14
Passing	16	28
Returns	1	5

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
COLTS	51	41	55	82	0	229
Opp. Total	123	101	106	70	0	400

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Biasucci	0-0	4-4	2-5	5-8	2-8	13-25

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McMillan	189	609	3.2	28	3
Bentley	73	351	4.8	70	3
Gill	53	228	4.3	18	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bouza	71	830	11.7	33	5
Brooks	65	1131	17.4	84	8
McMillan	34	289	8.5	45	0
Beach	25	265	10.6	26	1
Bentley	25	230	9.2	38	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Coleman	4	36	9.0	31	0
Hicks	2	16	8.0	16	0
Bickett	2	10	5.0	10	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Stark	76	3432	45.2	5	23	63	0
Kiel	5	190	38.0	0	0	43	0

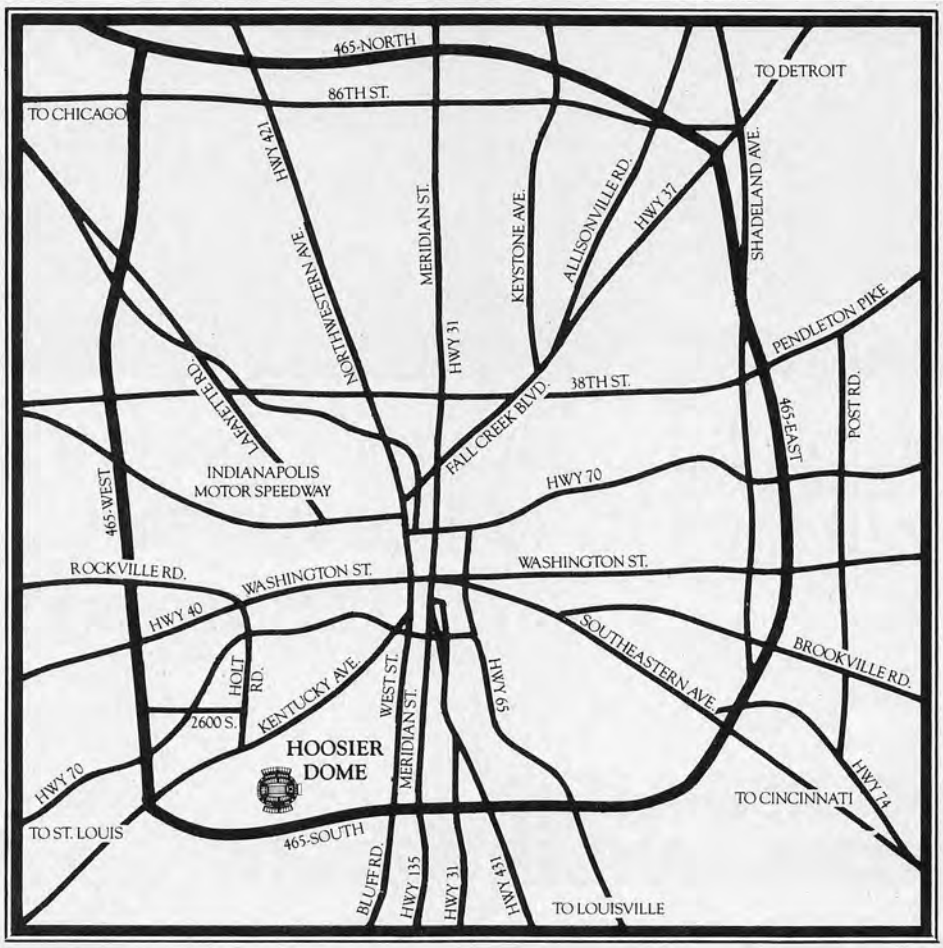
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Brooks	18	7	141	7.8	18	0
Martin	17	5	109	6.4	25	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bentley	32	687	21.5	37	0
Martin	21	385	18.3	27	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Trudeau	417	204	2225	48.9	5.34	8	1.9	18	4.3	84	29/213	53.6
Hogeboom	144	85	1154	59.0	8.01	6	4.2	6	4.2	60	18/144	81.2

COLTS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Cornelius **BENNETT** *OLB*	6-2, 236	**Alabama**	Won Lombardi Trophy given to top linemen in the country...'86 first team All-SEC & All-American...61 tackles (45 solos)...10 sacks & had 19 tackles for 105 yds. in losses...6 fmb. cau. & 2 deflected passes.
3	Chris **GAMBOL** *OG-T*	6-7, 285	**Iowa**	Has played every position on the offensive line...gifted athlete, also competing on the schools' track team in the shot put & discus.
4	Randy **DIXON** *OT*	6-4, 286	**Pittsburgh**	'86 first team All-American & All-East honors...had a 90% blocking grade on the year...team captain.
5	Roy **BANKS** *WR-PK*	5-11, 190	**E. Illinois**	'86 first team All-Gateway Conf....second on team and in the conf. with 53 recpts. for 1014 yds. (19.1 avg.)...third in the conf. in scoring with 66 pts. on 11 TD's.
6	Freddie **ROBINSON** *DB*	6-1, 175	**Alabama**	'86 All SEC, 54 tackles (49 solos), 5 int's. 7 deflections.
7	Mark **BELLINI** *WR*	6-0, 180	**BYU**	Underwent surgery for ankle injury after season...'86 first team All-WAC...led team with 46 catches for 839 yds. (18.2 avg.) & 5 TD's.
8	Chuckie **MILLER** *DB*	5-9, 180	**UCLA**	'86...36 tackles (24 solos) 3 fmb. rec., 6 deflections, 1 int.
9	Bob **ONTKO** *LB*	6-3, 230	**Penn St.**	'86 didn't play. '85...20 tackles (13 solos), 4 fmb. rec.
10	Chris **Goode** *DB*	6-0, 194	**Alabama**	'86...35 tackles (31 solos), 1 tackle for a loss...3 pass deflections.
11	Jim **REYNOSA** *DE*	6-5, 267	**Arizona St.**	'86 played in 11 games, 28 tackles (14 solos), 1 sack, 1 fmb. rec.
12	David **ADAMS** *RB*	5-6, 163	**Arizona**	'86 leading rusher on team, 238 carries for 1175 yds., 7 TD's, 20 recpts. for 162 yds. & 1 TD.



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CLEVELAND BROWNS

KOSAR LEADS PASS-ORIENTED BROWNS

BY TONY GROSSI ■ *[Chip Banks was traded to San Diego on draft day.]*

A year ago at their 1986 training camp, the Cleveland Browns talked about going to the Super Bowl. Head coach Marty Scottenheimer did most of the talking. His players listened intently. Most everyone else discarded the talk as nothing more than inspirational babbling.

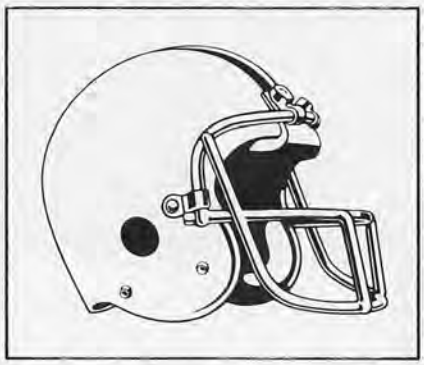
But this year more people in Cleveland are listening to the professorial Schottenheimer. He embarks on his third full season in charge of the Browns with a team many regard as a legitimate Super Bowl contender. In fact, anything less than an appearance in the National Football League championship game would make the 1987 season a disappointment to the Browns and their Super Bowl-starved fans.

"It would be, yes, but no more so than it was last year," said Schottenheimer, who adorns the Browns' training headquarters with larger-than-life, framed portraits of the Vince Lombardi Trophy. "We will constantly talk about the Super Bowl this year."

Talk is cheap, but the Browns nearly proved Schottenheimer a prophet last year. They won their second straight American Conference Central Division title with a 12-4 record, their most wins in 37 years of NFL play. They won a playoff game for the first time since 1969. And they were ahead in the AFC Championship Game until the Denver Broncos tied the score with 37 seconds left in regulation and won it, 23-20, on their first possession in overtime.

All of that was accomplished despite a series of tragedy and adversity that struck before the Browns opened training camp. As the season progressed, the Browns seemed to gain strength from the hardships they encountered.

In June, free safety Don Rogers, their leading tackler from the previous season, died of cocaine poisoning. In August, they lost veteran quarterback Gary Danielson for the season with a broken ankle. In September, they lost starting strong safety Al Gross for 11 weeks with



a knee injury. Also in the first month of the season, running back Kevin Mack and tight end Ozzie Newsome, Pro Bowl players in 1985, suffered shoulder injuries that plagued them the rest of the year.

In October, running back Earnest Byner suffered torn ankle ligaments and was sidelined until the championship game. In November, reliable place-kicker Matt Bahr, tore knee ligaments and had surgery.

Through it all, a new pass-oriented offense installed by coordinator Lindy Infante gradually matured. The defense, constructed by Schottenheimer in his days as coordinator, steadied after a rocky start. And the Cleveland special teams, coached by emotional Bill Cowher, actually carried the entire club while the offense and defense rebounded from injuries.

"We didn't get it done with mirrors," said Schottenheimer, the consensus AFC Coach-of-the-Year. "We did it with execution and good people. Now we have to reestablish our ability to get it done again."

The 1986 season marked the coming-out party of quarterback Bernie Kosar, whom Browns executive vice president Ernie Accorsi unabashedly calls "the franchise."

Only 22 when the season began, Kosar answered the call to leadership in his second NFL campaign when Danielson broke an ankle in the team's final preseason game. Danielson was recovering gamely from offseason shoulder surgery and was challenging the former University of Miami wunderkind for the starting spot. Kosar responded with a sterling performance in the Browns' season-opener against the then-defending champion Chicago Bears. Cleveland scored 31 points in a losing cause, and the 24 points supplied by the Browns' offense were the most the Bears would allow in a game all season.

Kosar went on to produce one of the more spectacular seasons in Browns' history. He completed 310 of 531 passes (58.4%) for 3,854 yards, more than any Cleveland quarterback except Brian Sipe, a former league MVP. He tossed 17 touchdowns. He was intercepted only 10 times, and his 1.88 interception rate was best in the league and lowest in Browns' annals.

Kosar had three 400-yard passing games, including an NFL playoff-record

489 against the New York Jets. In total, the Ohio native, two weeks younger than his former college teammate Vinny Testaverde, directed the Browns to over 500 yards total offense on three occasions.

"The one thing he did that didn't surprise us was the big plays," said Accorsi. "But two things none of us could have expected were his control of the offense and the number of times he would have to throw. We felt we'd still be a running team."

Indeed, with former 1,000-yard rushers Mack and Byner, and another, Curtis Dickey, on the bench, the Browns were not expected to shuck their running game in spite of the addition of new coordinator Infante. But injuries limited Mack and Byner to only seven quarters of football together in the same backfield. Mack came on strong in the run for the playoffs, finishing with 665 yards and 10 touchdowns. Byner was held to 277 yards on the ground and 328 in receptions.

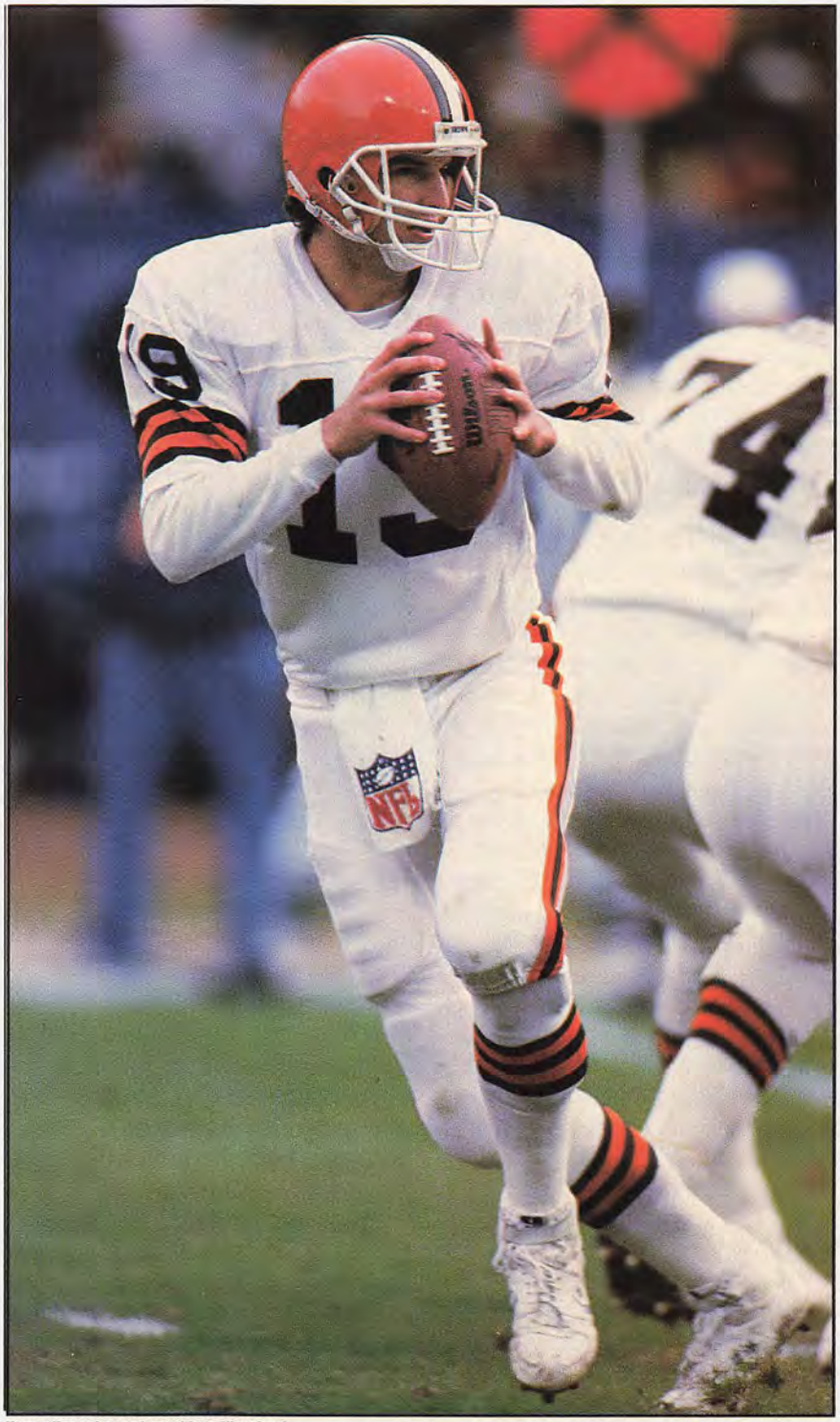
Dickey contributed 523 rushing and provided the team with its first 100-yard game on the ground in the eighth week. Because of the injuries and an emphasis on the pass, Cleveland's rushing attack dropped 14 places to 22nd in the league.

The injuries to Newsome—the NFL's all-time leading pass catcher among tight ends—and Byner forced the Browns to reacquaint themselves with their wide receivers.

Busting out of a pack of no-name wideouts was Brian Brennan, a fourth round draft choice in 1984 who was regarded as too small (5-foot-9) and too slow to serve as the team's No. 1 receiver. In fact, Brennan never started a game last year. He was alternated at one spot with second-year man Reggie Langhorne, but Brennan emerged as Kosar's favorite receiver in the clutch.

"In times of crisis, you think of players, not plays," said Schottenheimer. "Brian is someone we think about in those important third and fourth-down situations."

The sure-handed Boston College product had his biggest year, leading the Browns with 55 catches, 838 yards and six TDs. Langhorne, a 1985 seventh-round pick from obscure Elizabeth City State, blossomed into a deep threat. The large target (6-2 and 200 pounds) had 39 catches and 678 yards for a team-leading 17.4 yard per catch. And rookie Webster Slaughter, a second-round pick from San Diego State, started every game and made 40 catches for 577 yards.



Bernie Kosar has put new life in Cleveland

The improved receiving corps enabled Infante to employ a wide open four-receiver alignment late in the year, an attack that brought a smile to the face of Kosar. It is sure to be employed more

this season.

When the Browns go to four wideouts, they add the speed of Clarence Weathers or return specialist Gerald (Ice Cube) McNeil to the offense. On first and second downs, they generally keep Newsome (career-low 39 receptions last year) and all-purpose running back Herman Fontenot on the field. Fontenot, a former free agent from Louisiana State, was second on the club last year with 47 catches.

The passing attack would not be possible without protection from the offensive line. At 6-5 and 210 pounds, Kosar is anything but mobile and agile. But he has a knack for feeling pressure and escaping it. The line of Rickey Bolden, Paul Farren, Mike Baab, Dan Fike and Pro Bowler Cody Risien permitted only 39 sacks last year. When Bolden, the starter at left tackle, suffered a broken arm in the fifth game, Farren moved to his spot and Larry Williams, a 10th-round pick who was "redshirted" in 1985, filled in ably at left guard.

By the last third of the season, Infante's offense was running efficiently, if not spectacularly. During their march to the playoffs, the Browns scored 37 points against the Pittsburgh Steelers, 34 against the Cincinnati Bengals and 47 against the San Diego Chargers.

With every offensive starter under the age of 27 except Newsome, who is 31, the Browns believe the second year under Infante's "option-route" pass system should pick up where 1986 left off.

The defense, however, has some pressing concerns, which the Browns hoped to address in the draft.

"We've got to make plays defensively," said Accorsi. "We have to get better. We have players already on the team who will get better, but we have to attack the pocket better."

"The pass rush is something we've talked about improving for a long, long time," conceded Schottenheimer. "I'm not sure we can find the answer in this draft."

The Browns managed only 35 quarterback sacks last season, and seven were registered by linebackers. The leading sacker with nine was 35-year old end Carl (Big Daddy) Hairston, an inspirational leader who contributed to the development of end Sam Clancy, a former star basketball player at the University of Pittsburgh.

Cleveland's Chip Banks is ready for action

Clancy, 6-5 and 260 pounds, was the most improved player on defense and the Browns are banking that he will add to his 1986 total of 5 1/2 sacks. Left end Reggie Camp (7 1/2 sacks) and Pro Bowl nose tackle Bob Golic round out the starting three on the line. Schottenheimer intends to use a 4-3 defense on more occasions, which might mean more playing time for backup nose tackle Dave Puzzuoli, who provided a much-needed dose of quarterback pressure (six sacks) early in the season.

Linebacking, formerly the Browns' strong suit, showed signs of vulnerability last year. It suffered early as inside linebacker Anthony Griggs learned the Cleveland system after taking over for the waived Tom Cousineau. Griggs teamed much of the year inside with Eddie Johnson, who had a sub-par year. Either might lose his spot in 1987 to Mike Johnson (no relation to Eddie), who joined them after the USFL folded in August.

Strong side linebacker Chip Banks earned his fourth Pro Bowl honor in five seasons as he took on a greater role, staying on the field on passing downs for the first time in his career. His counterpart on the weak side, Clay Matthews, turned in an outstanding injury-free season. But the Browns are thin on the bench and were seeking an outside linebacker to eventually replace the 31-year old Matthews.

The strength of the Browns' defense now is its secondary. Pungnacious cornerbacks Hanford Dixon and Frank Minnifield finally established themselves as the best bump-and-run pair in the league.

The Browns played most of the season with two new starting safeties. Free agent Ray Ellis was signed after the first-game injury to Gross and enters 1987 as the incumbent at strong safety. Chris Rockins, a 1984 second-round pick from Oklahoma State, replaced Rogers and led the Browns with 135 tackles but might be challenged in 1987 by Gross.

Return specialist McNeil, lightest player in the league at 146 pounds, was the only man in the NFL to score touchdowns on a punt (84 yards) and kickoff (100) last season. The Browns also blocked two punts for touchdowns, forced and recovered 10 fumbles and partially blocked a last-second field goal to preserve a win. In total, Cleveland special teams set up or scored 62 of the Browns' 391 points in 1986.

Cowher was promoted to coach of the secondary in the offseason. Hired to succeed him was Kurt Schottenheimer, younger brother of the head coach. One of Kurt's immediate concerns was the health of Bahr, who was being counted on to recover from surgery to his right (kicking) knee.

All of which has the Browns talking again, of reaching the Super Bowl in 1987 for the first time in their history.

"We started building in that direction again the day after the AFC Championship Game," Schottenheimer said. "I don't want to diminish what we accomplished in 1986, but we didn't reach the top of the summit."□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Moseley**, Mark	K	6-0	204	16	Stephen Austin
4	**Anderson**, Greg	WR	5-10	170	1	Alabama State
7	**Gossett**, Jeff	P	6-2	195	6	Eastern Illinois
9	**Bahr**, Matt	K	5-10	175	7	Penn State
10	**Pagel**, Mike	QB	6-2	200	6	Arizona State
12	**Norseth**, Mike	QB	6-2	200	1	Kansas
18	**Danielson**, Gary	QB	6-2	196	10	Purdue
19	**Kosar**, Bernie	QB	6-5	215	3	Miami
22	**Wright**, Felix	FS	6-2	186	3	Drake
23	**Harper**, Mark	CB	5-9	178	2	Alcorn State
24	**Ellis**, Ray	S	6-1	196	7	Ohio State
26	**Duncan**, Clyde	WR	6-2	211	3	Tennessee
27	**Gross**, Al	SS	6-3	190	5	Arizona
28	**Fontenot**, Herman	RB	6-0	206	3	Louisiana State
29	**Dixon**, Hanford	CB	5-11	183	7	Southern Mississippi
31	**Minnifield**, Frank	CB	5-9	180	4	Louisville
33	**Dickey**, Curtis	RB	6-1	220	8	Texas A&M
34	**Mack**, Kevin	RB	6-0	212	3	Clemson
35	**Jackson**, Enis	CB	5-9	180	1	Memphis State
37	**Rockins**, Cris	FS	6-0	202	4	Oklahoma State
38	**Davis**, Johnny	RB	6-1	235	10	Alabama
39	**Everett**, Major	RB	5-10	218	5	Miss. College
40	**Simmons**, King	S	6-2	200	1	Texas Tech
43	**Baker**, Tony	RB	5-10	175	2	East Carolina
44	**Byner**, Earnest	RB	5-10	218	4	East Carolina
48	**Hoggard**, Dee Dee	CB	6-0	190	2	North Carolina State
50	**Van Pelt**, Brad	OLD	6-5	235	15	Michigan State
51	**Johnson**, Eddie	ILB	6-1	225	7	Louisville
52	**Miller**, Nick	LB	6-2	238	1	Arkansas
53	**Griggs**, Anthony	OLB	6-3	230	6	Ohio State
54	**Bowser**, Charles	LB	6-3	235	5	Duke
55	**Weathers**, Curtis	LB	6-5	230	8	Mississippi
56	**Banks**, Chip	OLB	6-4	233	6	USC
57	**Matthews**, Clay	OLB	6-2	232	10	USC
58	**Nicolas**, Scott	ILB	6-3	228	6	Miami
59	**Johnson**, Mike	ILB	6-1	228	2	Virginia Tech
60	**Dennard**, Mark	C	6-4	260	9	Texas A&M
61	**Baab**, Mike	C	6-4	270	6	Texas
62	**Lilja**, George	C	6-4	270	6	Michigan
63	**Risien**, Cody	T	6-7	280	8	Texas A&M
66	**Andrews**, Tom	OG	6-4	267	3	Louisville
69	**Fike**, Danny	G-T	6-7	280	3	Florida
70	**Williams**, Larry	G	6-5	290	2	Notre Dame
71	**Meyer**, Jim	T	6-5	295	1	Illinois State
72	**Puzzuoli**, Dave	NT	6-7	260	5	Pittsburgh
74	**Farren**, Paul	G	6-5	280	5	Boston U.
75	**Contz**, Bill	T	6-5	280	5	Penn State
77	**Bolden**, Rickey	T	6-6	280	4	SMU
78	**Hairston**, Carl	DE	6-4	260	12	Maryland E.S.
79	**Golic**, Bob	NT	6-2	270	8	Notre Dame
80	**Greer**, Terry	WR	6-2	197	2	Alabama State
81	**Holt**, Harry	TE	6-4	240	5	Arizona
82	**Newsome**, Ozzie	TE	6-2	232	10	Alabama
83	**Young**, Glen	WR-KR	6-2	205	4	Mississippi State
84	**Slaughter**, Webster	WR	6-0	170	2	San Diego State
85	**Weathers**, Clarence	WR	5-9	170	5	Delaware State
86	**Brennan**, Brian	WR	5-9	178	4	Boston College
87	**Tucker**, Travis	TE	6-3	240	3	Southern Connecticut
88	**Langhorne**, Reginald	WR	6-2	203	3	Elizabeth City State
89	**McNeil**, Gerald	WR	5-7	140	2	Baylor
90	**Malone**, Ralph	DE	6-5	225	2	Georgia Tech
91	**Clancy**, Sam	DE	6-7	260	4	Pittsburgh
92	**Kab**, Vyto	TE	6-5	240	5	Penn State
93	**Bolzan**, Scott	T	6-3	270	1	Northern Illinois
95	**White**, James	DE	6-3	245	1	Louisiana State
96	**Camp**, Reggie	DE	6-4	280	5	California
99	**Baldwin**, Keith	DE	6-4	270	5	Texas A&M

BROWNS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	BROWNS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	302	302
Rushing	102	113
Passing	175	171
Penalty	25	18
3rd Down: Made/Att.	81/220	82/219
4th Down: Made/Att.	7/15	10/18
TOTAL NET YARDS	5394	5269
Avg. Per Game	337.1	329.3
Total Plays	1047	1047
Avg. Per Play	5.2	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	1650	1981
Avg. Per Game	103.1	123.8
Total Rushes	470	494
NET YARDS PASSING	3744	3288
Avg. Per Game	234.0	205.5
Tackled/Yards Lost	39/274	35/258
Gross Yards	4018	3546
Attempts/Completions	538/315	518/291
Pct. of Completions	58.6	56.2
Had Intercepted	11	18
PUNTS/AVERAGE	83/41.2	80/37.9
NET PUNTING AVG.	35.6	31.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	101/807	101/754
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	31/13	36/19
TOUCHDOWNS	45	36
Rushing	20	12
Passing	18	21
Returns	7	3

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
BROWNS	82	102	112	86	9	391
Opp. Total	54	98	62	96	0	310

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Bahr	4-4	7-9	7-8	1-2	1-3	20-26
Moseley	1-1	2-2	3-3	0-1	0-0	6-7

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Mack	174	665	3.8	20	10
Dickey	135	523	3.9	47	6
Byner	94	277	2.9	37	2

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Brennen	55	838	15.2	t57	6
Fontenot	47	559	11.9	t72	1
Slaughter	40	577	14.4	t47	4
Langhorne	39	678	17.4	66	1
Newsome	39	417	10.7	31	3

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Dixon	5	35	7.0	19	0
Wright	3	33	11.0	33	0
Minnifield	3	20	6.7	20	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Gossett	83	3423	41.2	10	21	61	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McNeil	40	10	348	8.7	t84	1
Slaughter	1	0	2	2.0	2	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McNeil	47	997	21.2	t100	1
Fontenot	7	99	14.1	19	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Kosar	531	310	3854	58.4	7.26	17	3.2	10	1.9	t72	39/274	83.8
Pagel	3	2	53	66.7	17.67	0	0.0	0	0.0	45	0/0	109.7

BROWNS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Mike **JUNKIN** *LB*	6-3, 235	**Duke**	'86 first team All-ACC, All-American...led team & conference with 188 tackles (110 solos)...15 tackles for losses of 88 yds...2 sacks & 5 fmb.cau. & 1 fmb. rec.
2	Gregg **RAKOCZY** *C*	6-5, 281	**Miami**	Earned numerous All-American honors...offensive co-captain ...'86 started every game, consistenly grading out to over 90% in every game, receiving a final blocking grade of 93%.
3A	Tim **MANOA** *FB*	6-1, 227	**Penn St.**	'86 All-East Hon. Men...second on team with 546 yds. on 98 carries & 2 TD's...gained 18 yds. for the East squad in the Hula Bowl.
3B	Jeff **JAEGER PK**	5-9, 172	**Washington**	52 yd. fg longest...'86 All-American...23 of 29 fg & 24 of 26 extra point attps.
6	Stephen **BRAGGS** *S-CB*	5-9, 173	**Texas**	'86 All-SWC...79 tackles (67 solos)...5 fmb. cau., 10 pass deflections, 6 int's.
8	Steve **BULLITT** *LB*	6-3, 220	**Texas A&M**	'86 tackles 39 (18 solos), 3 sacks, 2 fmb. cau., 1 int.
10	Frank **WINTERS** *C*	6-3, 273	**W. Illinois**	'86 first team All-Gateway Conf. & All-American...led the team's linemen with a 92% blocking grade...shared the team's MVP honors.
11	Larry **BREWTON** *DB*	5-11, 185	**Temple**	'86 second team All-East, 42 tackles (27 solos), 1 int, 2 fmb. rec.

CINCINNATI BENGALS

BENGALS MUST OVERCOME INCONSISTENCY

BY MIKE DODD

The scene was unusual and strangely appropriate. The Cincinnati Bengals last December became the first team ever to make a Monday Night Football telecast without playing in the game.

One day after they completed a 10-6 regular season, the Bengals gathered at a local restaurant to see if Miami could upset New England on MNF and give Cincinnati a wild-card play-off berth. ABC-TV cameras were there to record the Bengal's reactions and comments.

The Patriots won, and the lights went out on Cincinnati's season. Yet it was a fitting finale. For the last three years, the Bengals have been right on the outer fringe of the big show—good enough to warrant attention, but always falling short of the play-offs.

As they enter 1987, there's no question they have a prime-time offense. The defense improved in 1986—it had a long way to go—and if it can make similar strides this fall, the Bengals could step into the AFC's postseason party.

"I think we have a lot of things in place," said Coach Sam Wyche, entering his fourth year, "and they're not in place with players getting old.

"The thing we have to improve is our pass rush and we have to get stronger on the defensive line at the point of attack," he said.

The Bengals must also overcome their inconsistency. They blew out New England by 24 points on the road one week, then lost to Cleveland by 31 at home the next.

The club's strength is in its wealth of young offensive stars. The offense is as talented and deep as any in the league. Cincinnati was No. 1 in the NFL in yards gained (405.6 a game) and third in points scored (25.6 a game). Wyche knows he can't realistically expect more this year.

"I guess you always set your sights a little higher to give you something to shoot at, but as a practical matter, if we can maintain what we did last year (we'll be satisfied)," he said. "I'd like to have

the same stats and be a little more consistent, not score 52 points one game and three the next."

The triggerman for the attack is fourth-year quarterback Boomer Esiason, who appeared in his first Pro Bowl last year. After a shaky start in which he threw seven interceptions the first four games, Esiason went on to complete 58% of his passes for 3,959 yards, 24 TDs and 17 interceptions.

The big left-hander (6' 4", 220) is at his best when improvising. Twice last year, he brought the Bengals from behind with big plays off a scramble in the final two minutes.

Esiason and Wyche didn't always see eye-to-eye, but the disagreements seemed to spark his play. He exploded after being pulled in the first half of a game against Houston. He went back in in the second half and over the final 6 1/2 games of the season, he hit 64.8% of his passes for 1,909 yards, 13 touchdowns and seven interceptions. Those are Marino-type numbers.

Ken Anderson, 38, will be back for his 17th NFL season, but the Bengals hope thy don't have to use him—his durability is a serious question.

The wide receiver corps of Cris Collinsworth, Eddie Brown and Tim McGee provides a blend of experience and explosiveness. "If the first three are healthy, we've got as good a group as anybody," Wyche said.

Collinsworth caught 62 passes for 1,024 yards in '86. Ho hum, routine year. You keep waiting for the beating he suffers to take its toll, but his average-per-catch and TDs are up the last two years.

Brown, the other starter, suffered from a nagging hand injury that hurt his catching ability last year, but still finished with 58 receptions for 964 yards. The most explosive athlete on the team, Brown could break through to All-Pro status this year. Third receiver Tim McGee, a first-round pick in '86, had only 16 catches as a rookie, but he has the speed and hands to put up bigger numbers.

Tight end Rodney Holman labors in a supporting role, but he still managed 40 catches for 570 yards. "I think he's one of the best tight ends in the game," Wyche said. "He fits our system beautifully and he's faster than anybody gives him credit for."

The Bengals have several good backs, but no great one. The best clearly is

James Brooks, who set club records for rushing and total yards from scrimmage in '86. He gained 1,087 yards rushing and another 686 yards on 54 receptions. While he doesn't have breakaway speed, Brooks is quick and tough enough to break tackles. He is perfectly suited for the Cincinnati offense. At 5' 10", 182, he's not built to carry 25 times a game, but no back will get the ball that much in the Bengals' attack.

It's beyond Brooks that worries Wyche. "James Brooks has been a model, but if we were to lose him, we don't have another proven guy to step in and replace him," he said.

There would be three strong candidates—Larry Kinnebrew, Stanley Wilson and Bill Johnson. They'll vie for the starting fullback job. They combined for 1,100 yards in '86 and at their best, they're all NFL quality starters. But none of the three has proven he can do the job over the course of a full season.

Kinnebrew, the leading candidate, is a load and a half when they can keep his weight under 260. He rushed for 519 yards and scored eight TDs last year. But his weight soared and his effectiveness plummeted midway through the season. At one point, he was demoted to third team.

Wilson, back from a one-year drug suspension, started the last three games and averaged 70 yards rushing a start. But in three seasons with the Bengals, he has yet to make it a full year without being sidelined for an extended period with injury. Johnson, a USFL refugee, has the ideal blend of speed and power. But durability is even a bigger question with him. He got knocked out of two games and missed three others with injury.

The Bengals have a ton of talent (literally) on the offensive line. Cincinnati rushed for 2,533 yards and allowed a sack only once in every 18 pass attempts—placing in the top 10 in the NFL in both categories. Tackle Anthony Munoz and guard Max Montoya started in the Pro Bowl.

"We have two All-Pros and the other guys are not far behind them," Wyche said.

Despite the gaudy numbers, Cincinnati's line is not necessarily set for the year. Center Dave Rimington underwent elbow surgery in the offseason and they're not sure he'll be ready to go by training camp. If not, Bruce Kozerski, the starting guard last year, will move over to center.

Munoz, Montoya and Rimington, if healthy, are fixtures. The other two spots are not locked up. Brian Blados, who was shifted from guard to tackle last year, lost his job to second-year man Joe Walter in week seven. The 6' 6", 290 pound Walter, entrusted with protecting Esiason's blind side, is blossoming into a superb pass blocker and will be hard to beat out. But the Bengals don't want to bury Blados. They've asked him to report at 285, 30 pounds under his 1986 playing weight, with the idea of moving him back to guard to compete with Kozerski. He could end up being a swing man, as is Bruce Reimers, another comer. Center tackle David Douglas is still developing.

"They'll all play," said Wyche of his line. "If we have eight of those guys healthy, at least seven of them will play a fairly equal amount."

On the defensive line, Wyche isn't looking for seven good men. Three would suffice.

Nose tackle Tim Krumrie is a Pro Bowl caliber player, but ends Eddie Edwards and Ross Browner have suffered two straight sub-par seasons.

"Both our ends are over 30 and both are on the small side for defensive ends nowadays," Wyche said.

That's a polite way of putting it. Other observers put it more bluntly—they're probably through. In their prime, Edwards and Browner relied mostly on quickness to offset the size disadvantage. Now they're losing that. Though teams ran to his side, Browner's tackles fell from 65 to 49 last year. Edwards, while not targeted as much, managed only 45 tackles. Both slipped 6 1/2 sacks.

The Bengals would like to try using them 20 or so snaps each a game, rotating with younger players. One candidate for increased time is fiery second-year man Jim Skow, who played more as the year wore on. But he's only 245 pounds and may not be able to bulk up much more, so it's a question whether he can handle full-time pounding.

Krumrie, meanwhile, led the team in tackles for the second straight year, despite near constant double-teaming. He's strong, tough, and never quits on a play.

The linebacking is in the second year of a transition from heavy-duty run pluggers to quicker, more mobile defenders. Third-year man Carl Zander, a steady performer at inside linebacker, was fourth on the team in tackles last year and is emerging as the leader of the group. Emanuel King, after a disappointing rookie year, played better as a sophomore and seems secure at the left outside spot. He's strong playing head up on the tight end and led the team with nine sacks, but still had some lapses.

The other two spots will be worth watching. Outside backer Reggie Williams, 33, had his best year since the Super Bowl season of '81, tying for second on the team in tackles. But he's coming back from offseason knee surgery, and at his age, that's always a concern. Joe Kelly, last year's first-round pick, started only the second half of the season because of a training camp holdout. The Bengals aren't sure whether to keep him inside, where he played in '86, or move him outside. He has the instincts of an inside backer but the size (225) of an outside man. It could depend on Williams' knee.

Also in the equation are former USFL All-Star Kiki DeAyala, who moves inside this year after spending his rookie NFL season on the wing, and Leo Barker, who started the first nine games but lost his job to Kelly.

The secondary also is in transition—it had two new starters in '86 and could have another one in '87. Rookie cornerback Lewis Billups and strong safety David Fulcher upgraded the beleaguered unit tremendously. Billups, though burned a couple of times for long TDs, has the makings of a first-rate corner. Fulcher, an All-Rookie selection, was a

■ *continued on page 171*

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
3	**Breech**, Jim	K	5-6	157	9	California
7	**Esiason**, Boomer	QB	6-4	220	4	Maryland
11	**Gaynor**, Doug	QB	6-2	213	2	Cal State-Long Beach
14	**Anderson**, Ken	QB	6-3	212	17	Augustana, IL
20	**Horton**, Ray	CB	5-11	185	5	Washington
21	**Brooks**, James	RB	5-10	177	7	Auburn
24	**Billups**, Lewis	CB	5-11	190	2	North Alabama
26	**Kemp**, Bobby	FS	6-0	186	7	Cal State-Fullerton
27	**Bussey**, Barney	SS	6-0	195	2	South Carolina State
28	**Kinnebrew**, Larry	RB	6-1	255	5	Tennessee State
30	**Johnson**, Bill	RB	6-2	230	3	Arkansas State
32	**Wilson**, Stanley	RB	5-10	210	4	Oklahoma
33	**Fulcher**, David	SS	6-3	225	2	Arizona State
34	**Breeden**, Louis	CB	5-11	180	10	N. Carolina Central
36	**Jennings**, Stanford	RB	6-1	202	4	Furman
37	**Jackson**, Robert	FS	5-10	180	7	Central Michigan
43	**Hilary**, Ira	WR	5-11	190	1	South Carolina
50	**Rimington**, Dave	C	6-3	290	5	Nebraska
51	**White**, Leon	OLB	6-2	230	2	Brigham Young
53	**Baker**, Leo	ILB	6-2	227	4	New Mexico State
55	**Brady**, Ed	ILB	6-2	235	4	Illinois
56	**Simpkins**, Ron	ILB	6-1	235	7	Michigan
57	**Williams**, Reggie	OLB	6-0	228	12	Dartmouth
58	**Kelly**, Joe	LB	6-2	227	2	Washington
63	**Walter**, Joe	T	6-6	290	3	Texas Tech
64	**Kozerski**, Bruce	G	6-4	280	4	Holy Cross
65	**Montoya**, Max	G	6-5	275	9	UCLA
67	**Douglas**, David	T	6-4	280	2	Tennessee
69	**Krumrie**, Tim	NT	6-2	262	5	Wisconsin
70	**Skow**, Jim	DE	6-3	250	2	Nebraska
71	**Hammerstein**, Mike	DE	6-4	273	2	Michigan
73	**Edwards**, Eddie	DE	6-5	256	11	Miami
74	**Blados**, Brian	T	6-5	295	4	North Carolina
75	**Reimers**, Bruce	G	6-7	280	4	Iowa State
78	**Munoz**, Anthony	T	6-6	278	8	Southern California
79	**Browner**, Ross	DE	6-3	260	10	Notre Dame
80	**Collinsworth**, Cris	WR	6-5	190	7	Florida
81	**Brown**, Eddie	WR	6-0	185	3	Miami
82	**Holman**, Rodney	TE	6-3	230	6	Tulane
84	**Kattus**, Eric	TE	6-5	230	2	Michigan
85	**McGee**, Tim	WR	5-10	175	2	Tennessee
86	**Kreider**, Steve	WR	6-3	192	9	Lehigh
88	**Martin**, Mike	WR	5-10	185	5	Illinois
90	**King**, Emanuel	OLB	6-4	245	3	Alabama
91	**Zander**, Carl	ILB	6-2	235	3	Tennessee
93	**De Ayala**, Kiki	OLB	6-1	225	2	Texas
95	**Herrmann**, James	DE	6-6	255	1	Brigham Young
96	**Shaw**, Jeff	NT	6-1	280	1	Salem College

BENGALS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	BENGALS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	348	336
Rushing	134	134
Passing	183	171
Penalty	31	31
3rd Down: Made/Att.	79/199	84/218
4th Down: Made/Att.	9/16	12/16
TOTAL NET YARDS	6490	5274
Avg. Per Game	405.6	329.6
Total Plays	1046	1051
Avg. Per Play	6.2	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	2533	2122
Avg. Per Game	158.3	132.6
Total Rushes	521	514
NET YARDS PASSING	3957	3152
Avg. Per Game	247.3	197.0
Tackled/Yards Lost	28/203	42/368
Gross Yards	4160	3520
Attempts/Completions	497/287	495/278
Pct. of Completions	57.7	56.2
Had Intercepted	20	17
PUNTS/AVERAGE	59/33.8	77/39.8
NET PUNTING AVG.	29.7	34.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	111/847	93/840
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	31/16	30/11
TOUCHDOWNS	51	47
Rushing	24	23
Passing	25	17
Returns	2	7

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
BENGALS TOTAL	69	126	72	139	3	409
Opp. Total	113	92	122	67	0	394

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Breech	1-2	4-5	5-7	5-14	2-4	17-32

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Brooks	205	1087	5.3	56t	5
Kinnebrew	131	519	4.0	39	8
Wilson	68	379	5.6	58t	8

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Collinsworth	62	1024	16.5	t46	10
Brown	58	964	16.6	57	4
Brooks	54	686	12.7	54	4
Holman	40	570	14.3	t34	2
McGee	16	276	17.3	51	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Breeden	7	72	10.3	t36	1
Fulcher	4	20	5.0	15	0
Barker	2	7	3.5	7	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Hayes	56	1965	35.1	3	11	52	2
Esiason	1	31	31.0	0	1	31	0

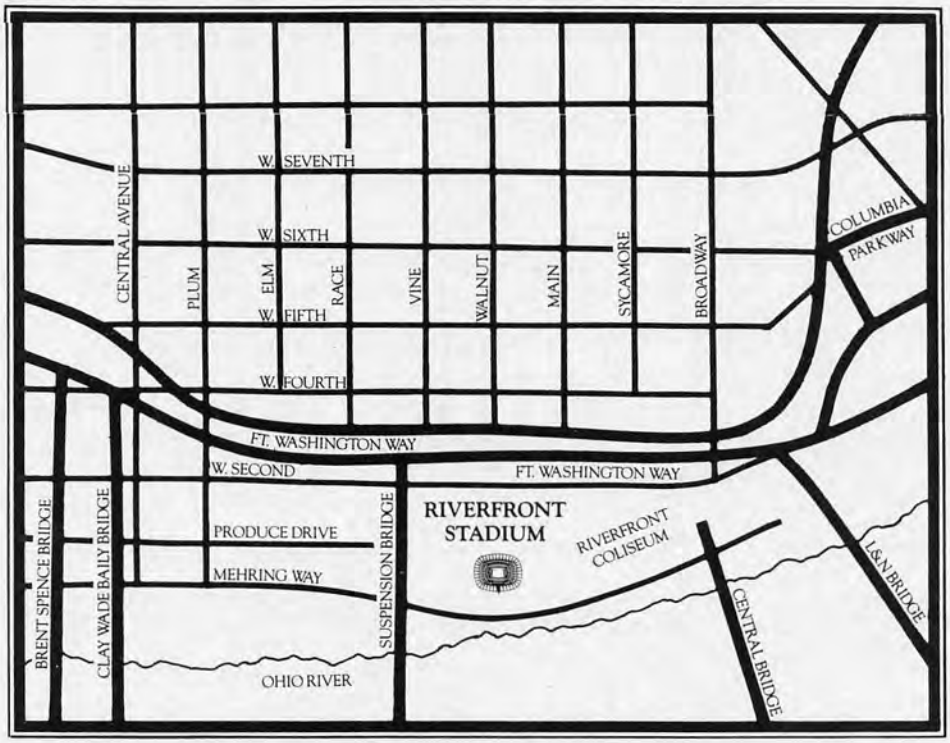
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Martin	13	6	96	7.4	14	0
Horton	11	3	111	10.1	25	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McGee	43	1007	23.4	94	0
Jennings	12	257	21.4	41	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct. Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Esiason	469	273	3959	58.2	8.44	24	5.1	17	3.6	57	26/194	87.7
Anderson	23	11	171	47.8	7.43	1	4.3	2	8.7	43	1/4	51.2

BENGALS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Jason **BUCK** *DE*	6-5, 260	**Brigham Young**	'86 named first team All-American...winner of Outland Trophy... 72 tackles (39 solos), 26 tackles for 142 yds. in losses & 12.5 sacks.
2	Eric **THOMAS** *CB*	5-11, 175	**Tulane**	'86 first team All-Louisiana...61 tackles (35 solos)...1 fmb.cau. & fmb. rec...13 pass deflections & 3 int's.
3A	Leonard **BELL** *SS-CB*	5-11, 201	**Indiana**	'86 second team All-Big 10...94 tackles (63 solos), 3 for losses of 14 yds...9 pass deflections, 2 int's, & 1 fmb. rec.
3B	Skip **McCLENDON** *DE*	6-6, 257	**Arizona St.**	'86 first team All-Pac 10...44 tackles (33 solos), 2 sacks & 3 tackles for 12 yds. in losses, 1 fmb. rec., 2 pass deflections, & 1 int.
4	Jim **RIGGS** *TE*	6-5, 245	**Clemson**	'86 first team All-ACC & Strength All-American...caught 17 passes for 197 yds. (11.6 avg.).
5A	Mark **LOGAN** *FB*	5-11, 207	**Kentucky**	Second on team with 546 yds. on 109 carries (5.0 avg.) & 5 TD's...caught 20 passes for 155 yds. & a score.
5B	Greg **HORNE** *P*	6-0, 188	**Arkansas**	'86 first team All-SWC...led the nation with 47.2 yd. average on 49 punts.
6	Sonny **GORDON** *FS*	5-11, 192	**Ohio St.**	'86 second team All-Big 10...89 tackles (52 solos), a sack & 6 tackles for 29 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau., 4 fmb. rec., & 7 int's.
7	Chris **THATCHER** *OT*	6-4, 275	**Lafayette**	'86 first team All-Colonial League, All-American honors by the AP.
8	Solomon **WILCOTS** *CB,*	5-11, 180	**Colorado**	'86...69 tackles (46 solos)...8 pass deflections, 3 int's.
9	Craig **RADDATZ** *LB*	6-3, 230	**Wisconsin**	'86 team defensive Player of the Year, co-captain, 116 tackles (43 solos), 1 fmb. rec.
10	David **McCLUSKEY** *FB*	6-1, 218	**Georgia**	'86 fourth on team with 407 yds. on 92 carries (4.4 avg.)...caught 6 passes for 91 yds. (15.2 avg.) & a TD.
11	Jim **WARNE** *OT*	6-7, 298	**Arizona St.**	'86 All PAC-10 Conf. Hon. Men...made remarkable recovery from a knee injury suffered in the season opener...received an 88% blocking grade.
12	John **HOLIFIELD** *HB*	6-0, 193	**Virginia**	'86 second on team with 645 yds. on 156 carries (4.1 avg.) & 3 TD's...caught 8 passes for 70 yds.



CINCINNATI BENGALS

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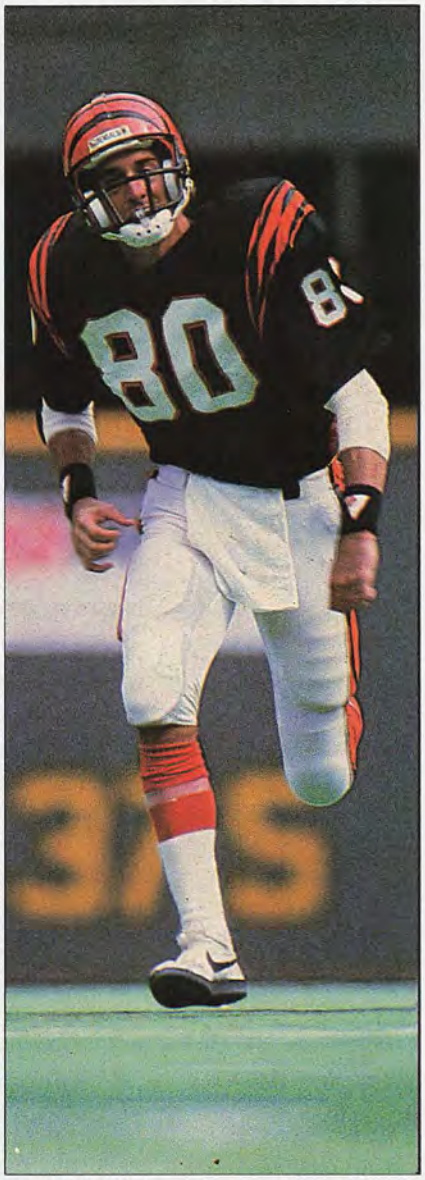
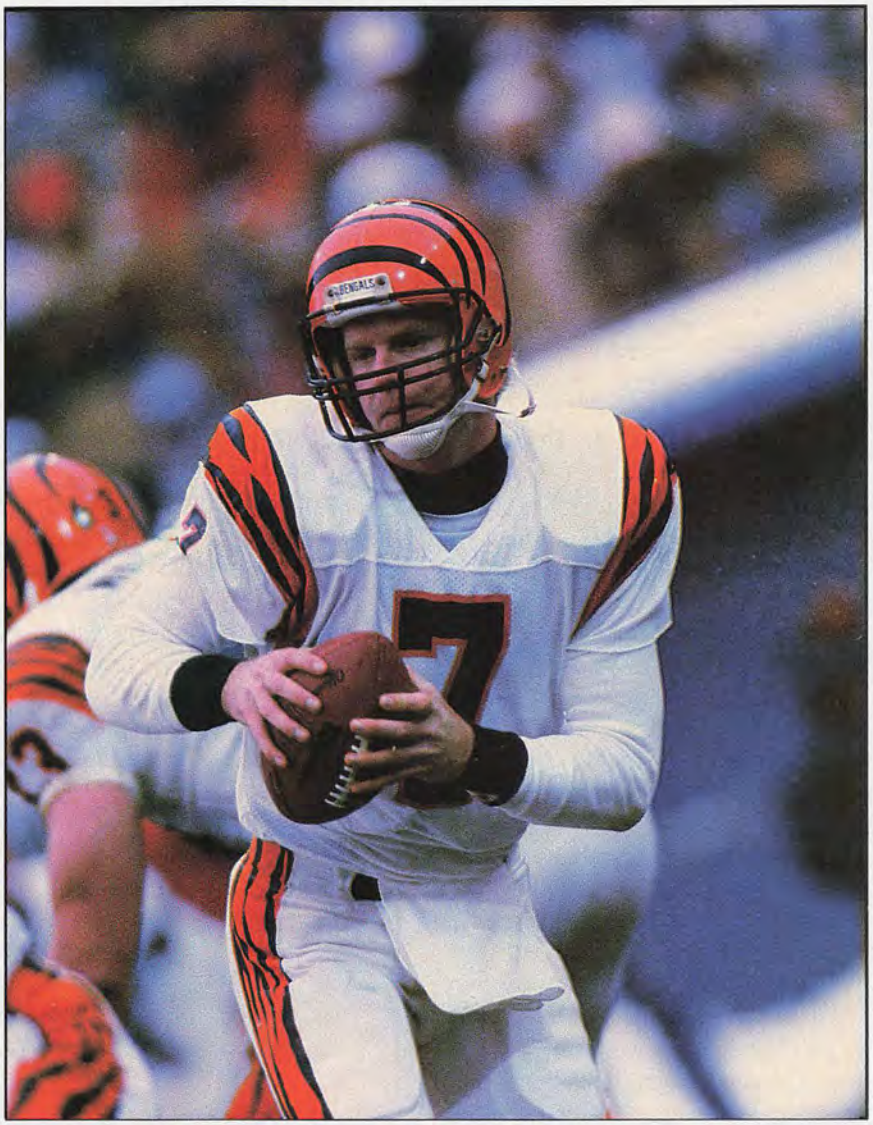
force turning back sweeps and held his own in coverages. He finished second on the team in tackles and interceptions.

The other corner, Louis Breeden, bounced back from a sub-par year in '85, but he'll be 34 this fall. They'll keep an eye out for an eventual replacement there, but there's a more immediate need at free safety. The Bengals did not get an interception out of the position last year. Bobby Kemp and Robert Jackson shared the starting assignment, but will get competition.

Nickel back Ray Horton will get a look there, as might Fulcher. Ex USFL All-Star Barney Bussey is a solid prospect, but considered strictly a strong safety. While Fulcher is more naturally suited to strong safety, the coaches may decide a Fulcher/Bussey combination is better than any other. But they'd really rather find a natural center fielder for the weak side.



Bengals' Cris Collingsworth does what it takes to make a catch



Quarterback Boomer Esiason has Cincinnati flying

The special teams were a problem as well last year and need attention. The Bengals had three punts, three field goals and an extra point blocked. Punter Jeff Hayes was cut after the season and a slew of free agents were signed to compete for the job. Rick Ward, in camp last summer, is the morning-line favorite, but, as Wyche said, "that's as wide open a spot as there's ever been in the game."

Place-kicker Jim Breech had an off-year in '86 (17 of 32 on field goal attempts) as he struggled all season with a chronic sore back. He had been remarkably steady the previous five years, so if he is healthy, he's the man. If not, he'll face a challenge for the job.

On the whole, the Bengals are a cat that AFC Central Division rivals fear. Wyche says Cleveland has the most talent, but Browns' coach Marty Schottenheimer refuses to budge from his evaluation of a year ago.

"I still think Cincinnati has the best talent in the division," Schottenheimer said this spring. "You can tell Sam we've started that already."□

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

STEELERS LOOK FOR RETURN TO GLORY

BY ED BOUCHETTE

"One for the Thumb." You remember it as the arrogant battle cry of Steeler fans in the early 1980s. Four Super Bowl trophies shimmered in the lobby at Three Rivers Stadium, but they were not enough for the insatiable football appetites in Pittsburgh.

They wanted them, expected them, to earn a fifth. One more Super Bowl ring, this one for the thumb.

Lately, the thumb has been put to use, but not to flash any fifth Super Bowl ring. It has instead plugged the hole in the Steeler dike that threatened to crumble quicker than you could say Green Bay Packers.

The dynasty that was the Steelers from 1974 to 1979 has long disappeared. The team was 1-6 after seven games last year, keeping company with the Tampa Bay Bucs, Indianapolis Colts and Houston Oilers of the National Football League. Coming on the heels of a 7-9 season, their first losing season since 1971, disaster was about to erupt.

President Dan Rooney reminded everyone publicly that Chuck Noll was not necessarily coach for life and that he had to keep proving himself just like everyone else. Fans implored Noll to get on with his life's work, a phrase Noll often used to describe a player whose football days were over.

Instead of getting the thumb, Noll took it and planted it squarely in the dike's saping hole. He plucked running back Earnest Jackson off the unemployed list. He found a cornerback set adrift by the failure of the United States Football League. He told his quarterback to quit doing the poor Dan Marino imitations. His line got healthy.

Presto, the Steelers won five of their final nine games to finish 6-10 and began looking, if not for a fifth ring, at least like a team that knew where to look for one.

"Early in the season, we didn't have running backs who were healthy, we had a decimated offensive line and couldn't move the football," said Noll,

who enters his 19th season as Steeler coach. "When you win Super Bowls, people forget about how tough it was getting to that position. There's no such thing as a smooth path.

"I think coming off the end of last year was a plus. It showed a lot of people, including our players, what they could do."

It didn't stop there. There was plenty more to come in the offseason. Dan Rooney, president of the team since his father and club founder Art Rooney Sr. stepped down a decade earlier, made an extremely difficult business and personal decision when he fired his brother, Art Rooney Jr., who had been head of the team's scouting department for nearly two decades.

Then, Noll brought Joe Greene back —as his defensive line coach. The Steelers were also the last team to hire a special teams coach, and Noll put two of them in charge of special teams. He also got into the computer business in a big way, technology Noll once distained.

Of course, you can change club executives, coaches and add all the technology you want and it still won't guarantee performance. The Steelers woefully lack depth everywhere. Except for Louis Lipps, their receivers are suspect. Their secondary is a shambles, their defensive line a question mark and their inside linebackers mediocre.

The infrastructure has changed since last season, but the Steelers need to find some answers on the playing field, where it counts.

Where to begin?

Why not at quarterback. Mark Malone proved early last season that he can't do it alone. With no running game and a line decimated by injuries, Malone tried to impersonate Marino, unleashing bombs that were off target and forcing passes into double-coverage. He looked very much like the quarterback of a 1-6 team.

But when his line got healthy and with the addition of Jackson and a revitalized and healthy Walter Abercrombie, Malone looked like the man who guided the Steelers into the 1984 AFC Championship game.

"Everybody blames it on Mark," Noll said of the team's disastrous start. "It's not Mark. If you don't have anybody who can run it, if you've got an offensive line hurt and your receivers hurt, it's

tough.''

Malone, who missed two games with a toe injury, recovered from that poor start to complete 5.8 percent of his passes for 2,444 yards. He needs only 2,298 more yards to become the team's second-leading passer in history.

An example of his turnaround—through the first four games, he completed 40 percent of his passes with only two TDs and nine interceptions; over his last 10, he completed 59 percent with 13 TDs and nine interceptions.

Malone is a blue-collar quarterback who is not blessed with a rifle arm but is intelligent, mobile and would run through a brick wall if his coaches asked him. Behind him is Buddy Brister, who has good, raw talent but looked every bit the rookie quarterback last season.

Barring more injuries or illness, the running game should be excellent. The Steelers began the 1986 season without Jackson (who began last season in Buddy Ryan's Philadelphia doghouse), without Frank Pollard (who had a knee injury) and with Walter Abercrombie ill with aseptic meningitis.

Pollard, their fifth leading rusher all-time, never did get better and no one knows his prognosis for '87. But Jackson joined the team in the fourth game, led the Steelers with 910 yards rushing in just 13 games and made the Pro Bowl. Abercrombie, meanwhile, got well and got his motor running around the fourth game. He had his best season as a pro, rushing for 877 yards and leading the team with 47 pass receptions. Previously, Abercrombie was taken out in passing situations, but over the second half of the season he was making circus catches out of the backfield.

Injuries also curtailed the spectacular Lipps, who missed the Pro Bowl for the first time in his three NFL seasons. He fought hamstring and muscle problems most of the year, a back injury and a concussion. He should return to form in 1987.

The same cannot be said of John Stallworth, who with center Mike Webster and safety Donnie Shell are the only remaining Steelers who have four Super Bowl rings. Stallworth suffered through more injury problems than Lipps and at 35 he may not be able to withstand the pounding anymore even though he made a miraculous recovery from a severe knee injury.

Backups Calvin Sweeney and Weegie Thompson were inconsistent when they were pressed into action for Lipps and Stallworth.

Preston Gothard was the only legitimate tight end on the roster after the Steelers cut veteran Bennie Cunningham. Gothard caught 21 passes, nearly equalling what Steeler tight ends caught in the two previous seasons combined.

The offensive line is the rock of the team. It has talent, size, depth and experience. The struggles for the Steelers early in the '86 season began up front when four of the five starters missed playing time with injuries. One by one they returned and by the second half of the season, the Steeler line was playing as well as any in the league. They also gave up the second fewest sacks in the NFL for the second straight year.

Center Mike Webster entered last season, his 13th, without ever having missed a game, but he missed the first four with a dislocated elbow. When he returned, he played as good as ever and, at 35, shows no signs of slowing down.

Right tackle Tunch Ilkin didn't make the Pro Bowl, but he should have, and left guard Craig Wolfley had his best season. Left tackle Ray Pinney played well after a poor 1985. Even right guard Terry Long, who played miserably the first half, improved in the second half of the season.

The most difficult choice is determining what to do wih guard John Rienstra, the Steelers' first-round pick last year. Rienstra opened the season at left guard with Wolfley out. He played exceedingly well there. However, he missed the last 10 games with a broken foot. He must play somewhere this season and if it is not at left guard, it could be right guard or even left tackle.

Defensively, which is where the Steelers dominated in the 1970s, things aren't nearly as settled as they are on offense.

The Steelers have always been known for their great linebacking play and Bryan Hinkle and Mike Merriweather continue that string on the outside. Merriweather again made the Pro Bowl, the 17th consecutive year a Steeler linebacker has played in that game.

Hinkle didn't make the Pro Bowl, but it was through no fault of his own. He had even a better year than Merriweather, he was selected the club's MVP by his teammates and he looked like a clone of Jack Ham, playing all over the field and playing the position near to perfection.

The third outside linebacker was rookie Anthony Henton, who has been compared to Merriweather. Henton was the fifth man in the Steelers' new, five-linebacker set that was used often last year.

The outlook among the inside linebackers is not so rosey. Robin Cole, a former Pro Bowl player, turns 32 and is slipping. David Little, the other starter, has shared time with journeyman Dennis Winston, another 32-year-old picked up when he was waived by the Saints. The depth on the inside is also shallow.

There's nothing wrong with the defensive line that Joe Greene couldn't help. But he'll have to do it as a coach now. His main project is Darryl Sims, the Steelers' No. 1 draft pick in 1985 who has been their biggest washout in years. Motivation might be the key to Sims' turnaround and if Greene can't motivate him, the cause is lost. A defensive end, Sims was also used at tackle last season.

Elsewhere, the line is solid against the run but still searching for a dominating pass rusher. End Keith Willis, who made the team as a free agent in 1982, led them with 12 sacks and is a classic over-achiever. Keith Gary, another former first round choice, has been under-achieving for too long. He played less often in '86.

Edmund Nelson is the line's most consistent player, and there may be none better against the run. Nose tackle Gary Dunn, 34, had a good season after an injury-filled '85. Gerald Williams, Dunn's

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Anderson**, Gary	K	5-11	170	6	Syracuse
6	**Brister**, Walter	QB	6-2	184	1	N.E. Louisiana
15	**Baker**, Andrew	WR	6-1	195	1	Rutgers
16	**Malone**, Mark	QB	6-4	220	8	Arizona State
18	**Newsome**, Harry	P	6-0	190	3	Wake Forest
21	**Williams**, Eric	FS	6-1	185	5	North Carolina State
22	**Woods**, Rick	FS	6-0	191	6	Boise State
24	**Erenberg**, Rich	RB	5-10	200	4	Colgate
26	**Swain**, John	CB	6-1	200	7	Miami
28	**Sanchez**, Lupe	CB	5-10	192	2	UCLA
30	**Pollard**, Frank	RB	5-10	223	8	Baylor
31	**Shell**, Donnie	SS	5-11	198	14	South Carolina State
33	**Clayton**, Harvey	CB	5-9	180	5	Florida State
34	**Abercrombie**, Walter	RB	6-0	210	6	Baylor
35	**Brown**, Gordon	RB	5-10	255	1	Tulsa
36	**Hughes**, David	FB	6-0	220	7	Boise State
40	**Reeder**, Dan	RB	5-11	235	2	Delaware
41	**Sheffield**, Chris	CB	6-1	180	1	Albany State
42	**Edwards**, David	SS	6-0	195	3	Illinois
43	**Jackson**, Earnest	RB	5-9	218	5	Texas A&M
44	**Carter**, Rodney	RB	5-11	213	1	Purdue
45	**Sanders**, Chuck	RB	6-1	233	2	Slippery Rock
49	**Woodruff**, Dwayne	CB	6-0	195	6	Louisville
50	**Little**, David	ILB	6-1	230	7	Florida
52	**Webster**, Mike	C	6-1	257	14	Wisconsin
53	**Hinkle**, Bryan	OLB	6-2	218	6	Oregon
55	**Winston**, Dennis	ILB	6-0	224	11	Arkansas
56	**Cole**, Robin	ILB	6-2	220	11	New Mexico
57	**Merriweather**, Mike	OLB	6-2	215	6	Pacific
60	**Rasmussen**, Randy	G	6-2	260	4	Minnesota
62	**Ilkin**, Tunch	T	6-3	265	8	Indiana State
63	**Rostosky**, Pete	T	6-4	270	4	Connecticut
64	**Nelson**, Edmund	DE-DT	6-3	270	6	Auburn
65	**Pinney**, Ray	T	6-4	265	9	Washington
66	**Behning**, Mark	T	6-6	285	2	Nebraska
67	**Dunn**, Gary	NT	6-3	275	11	Miami
73	**Wolfley**, Craig	G	6-1	268	8	Syracuse
74	**Long**, Terry	G	5-11	265	4	East Carolina
79	**Rienstra**, John	G	6-5	273	1	Temple
80	**Seitz**, Warren	TE	6-4	220	1	Missouri
82	**Stallworth**, John	WR	6-2	202	14	Alabama A&M
83	**Lipps**, Louis	WR	5-10	186	4	Southern Mississippi
85	**Sweeney**, Calvin	WR	6-2	190	8	Southern California
86	**Gothard**, Preston	TE	6-4	235	3	Alabama
87	**Thompson**, Weegie	WR	6-6	211	4	Florida State
88	**Britt**, Jessie	WR	6-4	198	1	North Carolina A&T
90	**Station**, Larry	LB	5-11	232	2	Iowa
91	**Carr**, Gregg	ILB	6-2	217	3	Auburn
92	**Gary**, Keith	DE	6-3	264	5	Oklahoma
93	**Willis**, Keith	DE	6-1	251	6	Northeastern
96	**Henton**, Anthony	OLB	6-1	220	1	Troy State
98	**Williams**, Gerald	NT	6-3	270	1	Auburn
99	**Sims**, Darryl	DE	6-3	275	3	Wisconsin

backup, had a good rookie season and could soon become Dunn's replacement.

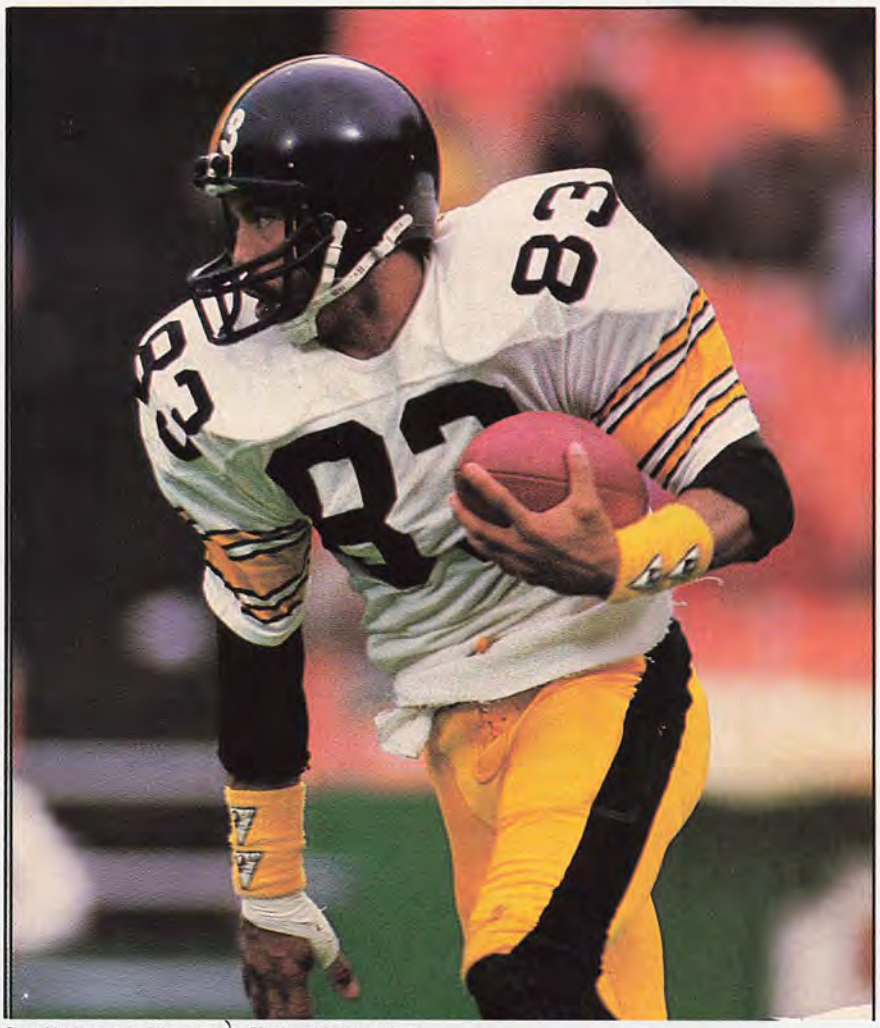
The secondary is a mess. No one knows who the starting cornerbacks will be or if those who do start can cut it. Last year, Harvey Clayton continued to get burned deep and was eventually replaced over the last four games by Lupe Sanchez, a USFL refugee and free agent pickup. Sanchez quickly became the big-play man the Steelers have lacked in their secondary.

Dwayne Woodruff, the Steelers' best cornerback for years, seriously injured his knee in the exhibition season and did not play again. His return on the left side would help settle down the secondary immensely. With him out, free agent rookie Chris Sheffield and John Swain played at left corner, albeit inconsistently.

Free safety Eric Williams made few big plays and dropped too many passes and was often replaced by Rick Woods. Shell, the strong safety, still gives an honest day's work but at 35 he has lost plenty off his fastball.

As poorly as the secondary played, it was not the worst area of the team. That belonged to the special teams. Even though they have one of the best placekickers in the NFL in Gary Anderson, the special teams play was atrocious. Anderson's attempts dropped because of a struggling offense early. Punter Harry Newsome improved at pinpointing his kicks and improved his average to 40.1, but he again had a poor second half of the season.

Part of it could be blamed on the poor performances around the kickers. Newsome got little protection and the kickoff and punt coverage teams were abysmal. It all came to a head in the last game of the season when the Steelers clearly outplayed the Kansas City Chiefs on offense and defense but lost 24-19 when the Chiefs scored three touchdowns on a kickoff return, a blocked punt and a blocked field goal.



Speed is the name of the game for Pittsburgh's Louis Lipps

Steelers' Walter Abercrombie fights for yards

"Usually, when you had a lot of talented people, special teams wasn't a problem, said Noll. "Special teams was the least of your worries. It's pretty much a measure of your depth, too."

Now, no one knows quite how to measure these Steelers. Noll's war cry used to be "Whatever it takes." The past two years, it's been "Whatever happened?"

Steeler fans hope to get some answers, not one for the thumb, in 1987.□

STEELERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	STEELERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	292	303
Rushing	125	97
Passing	140	176
Penalty	27	30
3rd Down: Made/Att.	86/232	81/228
4th Down: Made/Att.	11/18	7/13
TOTAL NET YARDS	4811	5252
Avg. Per Game	300.7	328.3
Total Plays	1075	1050
Avg. Per Play	4.5	5.0
NET YARDS RUSHING	2223	1872
Avg. Per Game	138.9	117.0
Total Rushes	564	471
NET YARDS PASSING	2588	3380
Avg. Per Game	161.8	211.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	20/159	43/289
Gross Yards	2747	3669
Attempts/Completions	491/238	536/311
Pct. of Completions	48.5	58.0
Had Intercepted	20	20
PUNTS/AVERAGE	89/38.7	82/39.0
NET PUNTING AVG.	32.2	33.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	104/853	108/899
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	27/16	31/13
TOUCHDOWNS	35	39
Rushing	18	10
Passing	16	22
Returns	1	7

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
STEELERS	51	83	90	77	6	307
Opp. Total	67	129	54	77	9	336

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Anderson	0-1	6-7	6-7	9-14	0-3	21-32

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Jackson	216	910	4.2	31	5
Abercrombie	214	877	4.1	38t	6
Erenberg	42	170	4.0	17	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Abercrombie	47	395	8.4	27	2
Lipps	38	590	15.5	48	3
Stallworth	34	466	13.7	40t	1
Erenberg	27	217	8.0	19	3
Sweeney	21	337	16.0	58	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Sanchez	3	71	13.7	67t	1
E. Williams	3	44	14.7	25	0
Shell	3	29	9.7	17	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Newsome	86	3447	40.1	11	18	64	3

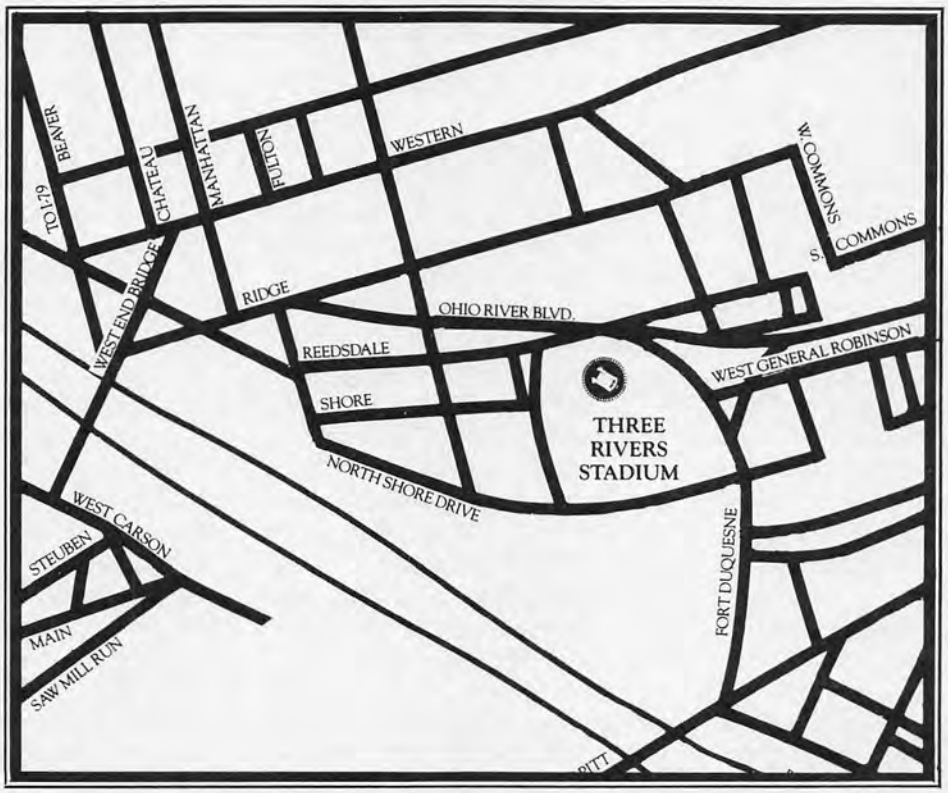
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Woods	33	12	294	8.9	41	0
Lipps	3	1	16	5.3	10	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Sanchez	25	591	23.6	64	0
Elder	21	425	20.2	36	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Malone	425	216	2444	50.8	5.75	15	3.5	18	4.2	48	13/97	62.5
Brister	60	21	291	35.0	4.85	0	0.0	2	3.3	58	6/57	37.6

STEELERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Rod **WOODSON** *CB-WR*	6-0, 195	**Purdue**	'86 unanimous All-Big 10 & All-American...108 tackles (68 solos)...1 fmb. cau. & 3 fmb. rec...blked 2 kicks, 10 pass deflections, 2 int's.
2	Delton **HALL** *CB*	6-1, 195	**Clemson**	'86 first team All-ACC...41 tackles (27 solos), 3 for losses of 5 yds...5 int's, 14 pass deflections, 2 fmb. cau., 2 blked kicks.
3	Charles **LOCKETT** *WR*	6-0, 175	**Cal St.-Long Beach**	'86 second team All-PCAA...caught 40 passes for 742 yds. (18.6 avg.) & 5 TD's.
4	Thomas **EVERETT** *FS*	5-9, 177	**Baylor**	'86 winner of Jim Thorpe Award...unanimous All-American & All-SWC; SWC Def Player of the Year...86 tackles (58 solos), 3 sacks, 7 tackles for 36 yds. in losses...deflected 14 passes & 6 int's.
5	Hardy **NICKERSON** *ILB*	6-2, 230	**California**	'86 second team All-Pac 10...132 tackles (61 solos), 3 for losses of 18 yds...2 fmb. cau. & fmb. rec's... voted team's MVP.
6A	Tim **JOHNSON** *DT*	6-3, 251	**Penn St.**	'86 All-East second team...33 tackles (16 solos), 7 for 35 yds. in losses, 5 sacks & 2 pass deflections.
6B	Greg **LLOYD** *LB*	6-2, 220	**Fort Valley St.**	'86 All-SIAC..147 tackles (92 solos), 10 sacks, 2 int's, 11 pass deflections.
7	Chris **KELLEY** *TE*	6-3, 236	**Akron**	'86 first team All-Ohio Valley with 31 recpts. for 480 yds. (15.5 avg.) & 4 TD's.
8	Charles **BUCHANAN** *DE*	6-3, 237	**Tennessee St.**	'86 Sheridan All-American...71 tackles (54 solos), 3 fmb. rec, 7.5 sacks.
9	Joey **CLINKSCALES** *WR*	6-0, 199	**Tennessee**	'86 started every contest leading the team with 37 recpts. for 511 yds. (13.8 avg.) & 3 TD's.
10	Merril **HOGE** *FB-TB*	6-2, 221	**Idaho St.**	'86 rushed for 631 yds. on 149 carries & 7 TD's, caught 49 passes for 399 yds (8.1 avg.).
11	Paul **OSWALD** *C*	6-4, 260	**Kansas**	'86 co-captain...bench presses 445 lbs., one of KU's most consistent blockers.
12	Theo **YOUNG** *TE*	6-2, 228	**Arkansas**	'86 used mostly as a blocking back...caught 7 passes for 89 yds. (12.7 avg.)...invited to play in the Senior Bowl.



HOUSTON OILERS

OILERS GO WITH MOON AT QUARTERBACK

BY RAY BUCK

"Somebody," Head Coach Jerry Glanville was saying in his toughest get-even tone of voice, "is going to pay for these hangings."

Warning: In Houston, Texas, where oil prices and pro football fortunes have taken the same highway to hell, frustration has turned to obsession. This guy Glanville wants revenge.

Yup. The Oilers say they're sick of losing, tired of being embarrassed. Enough is shamefully enough. Luv Ya Mercy.

Player talent, at least for the most part, is here and waiting . . . waiting . . . waiting for some coaching staff, any coaching staff, to receive more than a 30-game trial and be given a chance to turn this Columbia blue baby around.

It has been six years since Bud Adams' football team has been to the playoffs, or even enjoyed a winning season. The last time for either was 1980. Since then, the ghost of Bum Phillips has played havoc around these parts where the Oilers have done little more than become their own public enemy No. 1.

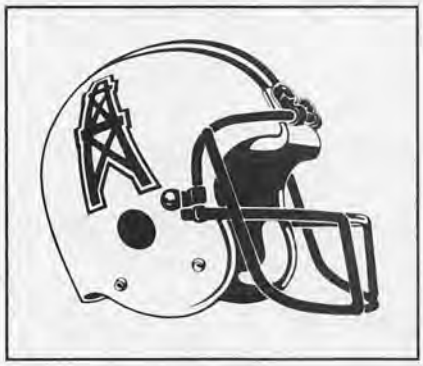
How terribly ironic that the popular Phillips was fired New Year's Eve 1980 after having taken this now struggling franchise to the playoffs each of his final three years on the job (1978-80) with regular-season marks of 10-6, 11-5 and 11-5. Twice, Houston made the AFC Championship Game.

Since Bum's deal, the Oilers have lost 66 of 89 games.

Ouch.

Since Bum's deal, they've gone through three head coaches (Ed Biles, interim Chuck Studley and Hugh Campbell); three offensive coordinators (Jim Shofner, Kay Dalton and Joe Faragalli), and four different starting quarterbacks (Ken Stabler, Gifford Nielsen, Archie Manning and Oliver Luck).

You get the picture. Jumbled. Since Bum's deal, continuity and semblance of order within the Houston organization



have taken a drop-kick to the chops. The Oilers are building, always building.

In 1986, the Oilers were the youngest team in the league and had to win their last two games (over Minnesota and Buffalo) just to finish with the same 5-11 record that got Campbell fired in 1985.

"If you're not in the playoffs in the NFL, then you didn't get the job done," said Glanville—no fun, no excuses, no punches pulled. "But even if we don't change a thing, we'll be a good football team in 1987. Wait and see."

Glanville, Houston's fifth head coach this decade (and 12th since the club's inception in 1960) now finds himself entering his second full season with "the best job in the league", which is his way of saying whatever went wrong between his predecessor, Campbell, and Oilers General Manager Ladd Herzeg Does Not Apply.

If that's progress, this next part can be considered a small miracle. The Oilers will go with Warren Moon at quarterback for the fourth straight year, although Glanville has at times lost confidence in Moon's uncanny knack at throwing the interception at precisely the worst possible time.

Moon, who is three-fourths the way through a $5.5 million contract signed as a free agent from the Canadian Football League in 1984, led the NFL in interceptions last season with 26. Like the Oilers, Moon finished strong, however, going interception-free in his last two games.

Glanville has hired former USFL assistant June Jones of the Mouse Davis school of run-and-shoot as quarterback coach, hoping that Moon's tremendous athletic abilities can be triggered in the NFL. Moon's strength is his ability to throw from the moving pocket. He once even led his Edmonton team in rushing.

Moon, who turns 31 this season (Nov. 18), is expected for the first time since he arrived in Houston to be throwing to holdover starting wide receivers—Ernest Givins and Drew Hill. Continuity, at last.

Givins and Hill became the Oilers' first tandem of 1,000-yard receivers in 26 years. Givins caught 61 pases for 1,062 yards as a rookie sensation in '86, while Hill chalked up his second 1,000-yard season for the Oilers with 65 catches for 1,112 yards.

The Oilers' biggest problem offensively was self-destructing in nature. Not only did Moon lead the NFL in interceptions,

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
1	**Moon**, Warren	QB	6-3	208	4	Washington
7	**Zendejas**, Tony	K	5-8	160	3	Nevada-Reno
10	**Luck**, Oliver	QB	6-2	193	6	West Virginia
11	**Johnson**, Lee	P	6-1	205	3	Brigham Young
20	**Pinkett**, Allen	RB	5-9	185	1	Notre Dame
21	**Eason**, Bo	S	6-2	204	4	Cal-Davis
22	**Johnson**, Kenny	S	5-11	172	7	Mississippi State
23	**Johnson**, Richard	CB	6-1	195	3	Wisconsin
24	**Brown**, Steve	CB	5-11	187	5	Oregon
25	**Bostic**, Keith	S	6-1	223	5	Michigan
26	**Mc Millian**, Audrey	CB	6-0	185	3	Houston
28	**Lyday**, Allen	FS	5-10	195	4	Nebraska
29	**Allen**, Patrick	CB	5-10	179	4	Utah State
30	**Moriarty**, Larry	FB	6-1	235	5	Notre Dame
31	**Donaldson**, Jeff	S	6-0	194	4	Colorado
33	**Rozier**, Mike	RB	5-10	201	3	Nebraska
35	**Wallace**, Ray	FB	6-0	221	2	Purdue
36	**Banks**, Chuck	FB	6-2	225	2	West Virginia Tech
37	**Kush**, Rod	S	6-1	198	7	Nebraska-Omaha
38	**Jordan**, Donald	RB	6-0	215	2	Houston
40	**Woolfolk**, Butch	RB	6-1	207	6	Michigan
50	**Dodge**, Kirk	LB	6-1	231	3	Nevada-Las Vegas
51	**Fairs**, Eric	LB	6-3	235	2	Memphis State
53	**Riley**, Avon	ILB	6-3	244	7	UCLA
55	**Romano**, Jim	C	6-3	255	6	Penn State
56	**Abraham**, Robert	LB	6-1	236	6	North Carolina State
58	**Kelley**, Mike	C	6-5	281	2	Notre Dame
59	**Grimsley**, John	LB	6-2	236	4	Kentucky
63	**Munchak**, Mike	G	6-3	286	6	Penn State
68	**Golic**, Mike	DT	6-5	265	2	Notre Dame
69	**Williams**, Doug	T	6-5	285	1	Texas A&M
70	**Steinkuhler**, Dean	T	6-3	273	4	Nebraska
71	**Byrd**, Richard	DE	6-3	264	3	Southern Mississippi
72	**Hill**, Kent	G	6-5	260	9	Georgia Tech
75	**Baker**, Jesse	DE	6-5	271	9	Jacksonville State
74	**Matthews**, Bruce	T	6-4	276	5	Southern California
76	**Moran**, Eric	T	6-5	290	4	Washington
77	**Taylor**, Malcolm	DE	6-6	272	4	Tennessee State
78	**Maggs**, Don	T	6-5	282	2	Tulane
79	**Childress**, Ray	DE	6-6	276	3	Texas A&M
80	**Tasker**, Steve	WR	5-9	180	3	Northwestern
81	**Givins**, Ernest	WR	5-9	175	2	Louisville
82	**Drewrey**, Willie	WR	5-7	164	3	West Virginia
83	**Smith**, Tim	WR	6-2	203	8	Nebraska
85	**Hill**, Drew	WR	5-9	168	8	Georgia Tech
86	**Akiu**, Mike	WR	5-9	182	3	Hawaii
87	**Williams**, Jamie	TE	6-4	240	5	Nebraska
88	**Dressel**, Chris	TE	6-4	239	5	Stanford
89	**Parks**, Jeff	TE	6-4	243	1	Auburn
91	**Meads**, Johnny	OLB	6-2	220	4	Nicholls State
92	**Briehl**, Tom	LB	6-3	246	2	Stanford
93	**Lyles**, Robert	LB	6-1	225	4	Texas Christian
94	**Bush**, Frank	LB	6-1	228	3	North Carolina State
95	**Fuller**, William	DE	6-3	255	2	North Carolina
98	**Madsen**, Lynn	DE	6-4	260	2	Washington
99	**Smith**, Doug	NT	6-4	285	3	Auburn

OILERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	OILERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	299	285
Rushing	101	102
Passing	179	137
Penalty	19	46
3rd Down: Made/Att.	88/231	79/223
4th Down: Made/Att.	4/13	6/12
TOTAL NET YARDS	5149	5034
Avg. Per Game	321.8	314.6
Total Plays	1089	1054
Avg. Per Play	4.7	4.8
NET YARDS RUSHING	1700	2035
Avg. Per Game	106.3	127.2
Total Rushes	490	532
NET YARDS PASSING	3449	2999
Avg. Per Game	215.6	187.4
Tackled/Yards Lost	48/394	32/201
Gross Yards	3843	3200
Attempts/Completions	551/288	490/228
Pct. of Completions	52.3	46.5
Had Intercepted	31	16
PUNTS/AVERAGE	89/41.1	94/39.5
NET PUNTING AVG.	35.7	33.3
PENALTIES/YARDS	120/1003	85/674
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	28/12	31/16
TOUCHDOWNS	30	39
Rushing	13	13
Passing	14	25
Returns	3	1

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
OILERS TOTAL	57	70	71	76	0	274
Opp. Total	37	131	71	81	9	329

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Zendejas	1-1	7-7	7-9	6-7	1-3	22-27

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Rozier	199	662	3.3	t19	4
Pinkett	77	225	2.9	14	2
Wallace	52	218	4.2	19	3

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
D.Hill	65	1112	17.1	t81	5
Givins	61	1062	17.4	60	3
Pinkett	35	248	7.1	20	1
Woolfolk	28	314	11.2	30	2
Rozier	24	180	7.5	23	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Lyday	3	24	8.0	24	0
Allen	3	20	6.7	18	0
Brown	2	34	17.0	38	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
L.Johnson	88	3623	41.2	9	26	66	0
Zendejas	1	36	36.0	0	1	36	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Drewrey	34	13	262	7.7	25	0
Givins	8	0	80	10.0	17	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Pinkett	26	519	20.0	48	0
Drewery	25	500	20.0	32	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Moon	488	256	3489	52.5	7.15	13	2.7	26	5.3	t81	41/332	60.3
Luck	60	31	341	51.7	5.68	1	1.7	5	8.3	27	7/62	39.7

but the Oilers as a team led the league in penalty yardage. Too often, the Oilers lined up and whupped themselves.

"This team is fragile," Glanville said. "I think that was rather obvious last year when the biggest difference between losing all those games early and winning at the end (of the season) was confidence."

The Oilers' 4-4 record over the second half marked the team's strongest finish since 1980. Only 10 teams in the league last season compiled better second-half records than Houston, and herein lies Glanville's hope for the immediate future.

"I think the way we finished up last season, we'll be able to take a finger in the eye and come back with confidence," Glanville said. "Getting the ball to our wide receivers is still our strength. Instead of wearing you down (with a running game), we need to make you chase us all over the field and try to find us."

Herein lies Glanville's need for the immediate future. A break-away running back is what this former defensive coordinator wants most, knowing full well what drives defensive coordinators nuts. Speed kills, Glanville says with a smile.

Mike Rozier, former Heisman Trophy winner from Nebraska, will be starting his third season with the Oilers after coming off knee surgery last December. He has led the team in rushing each of his two years at Houston with 462 yards in '85 and 662 in '86.

Rozier's numbers aren't very impressive but neither has been the Oilers' ability to put together a set of running backs to complement each other. They still need a fullback to take some heat off Rozier and Moon.

Glanville's desire for a break-away back ("to give us what Givins has given us at the wide receiver position") would satisfy an obvious need. The Oilers' longest gain from scrimmage by a running back last season was 19 yards. He is better fighting for yardage than he is running to daylight.

Houston has sunk a decade of high draft choices into the offensive line with results less than desireable. No fewer than four No. 1s start. From left to right, the OL reads like this: Bruce Matthews (No. 1 in '83), Mike Munchak (No. 1 in '82), Jim Romano (Raiders' No. 2 in '82), Kent Hill (Rams' No. 1 in '79) and Dean Steinkuhler (No. 1 in '84).

Munchak missed most of last season with knee surgery. He is the team's lone Pro Bowler (1984-85) since Earl Campbell was traded away three years ago. Looking for reasons for optimism? Try this. Moon, who had to have his right kneecap realligned through arthroscopic surgery March 9, Rozier and Munchak all are expected to be full-go in '87.

Steinkuhler, however, may be running out of comebacks. The Oilers' starting right offensive tackle this past off-season underwent his third arthroscope on his right knee. Since November 1984, Steinkuhler has submitted to major surgery and three scopes.

Defensively, the Oilers badly need a pass rusher, someone other than a blitzer who can reach the opposing quarterback. Overall, the Oilers finished 13th on defense (up from 27th in '85), including eighth against the pass, and led the NFL in allowing opponents to complete only 46.5 percent of their passes.

Oilers Mike Rozier can outrun most defenses

But Houston finished with only 32 sacks. That's nine fewer than they had in '85.

Glanville will say that it is hard for a defensive lineman to get a sack in Houston's defensive scheme of things because this is a defense that lives—an dies—by the blitz.

"Every team we play," Glanville said, "the quarterback gets rid of the ball one or two full seconds faster than they do against other teams in the league."

Why not? It's the little guys, extra safeties like Allen Lyday and Jeff Donaldson (not exactly household names around the NFL), who become important cogs in the Oilers' pass-rushing defense.

Defensive ends Ray Childress and Richard Byrd are aggressive, play-every-play type of players, but not much in the sack department. Childress tied for the team lead. Doug Smith and Mike Golic alternate series at nose tackle. Smith simply needs to be motivated. His potential is enormous.

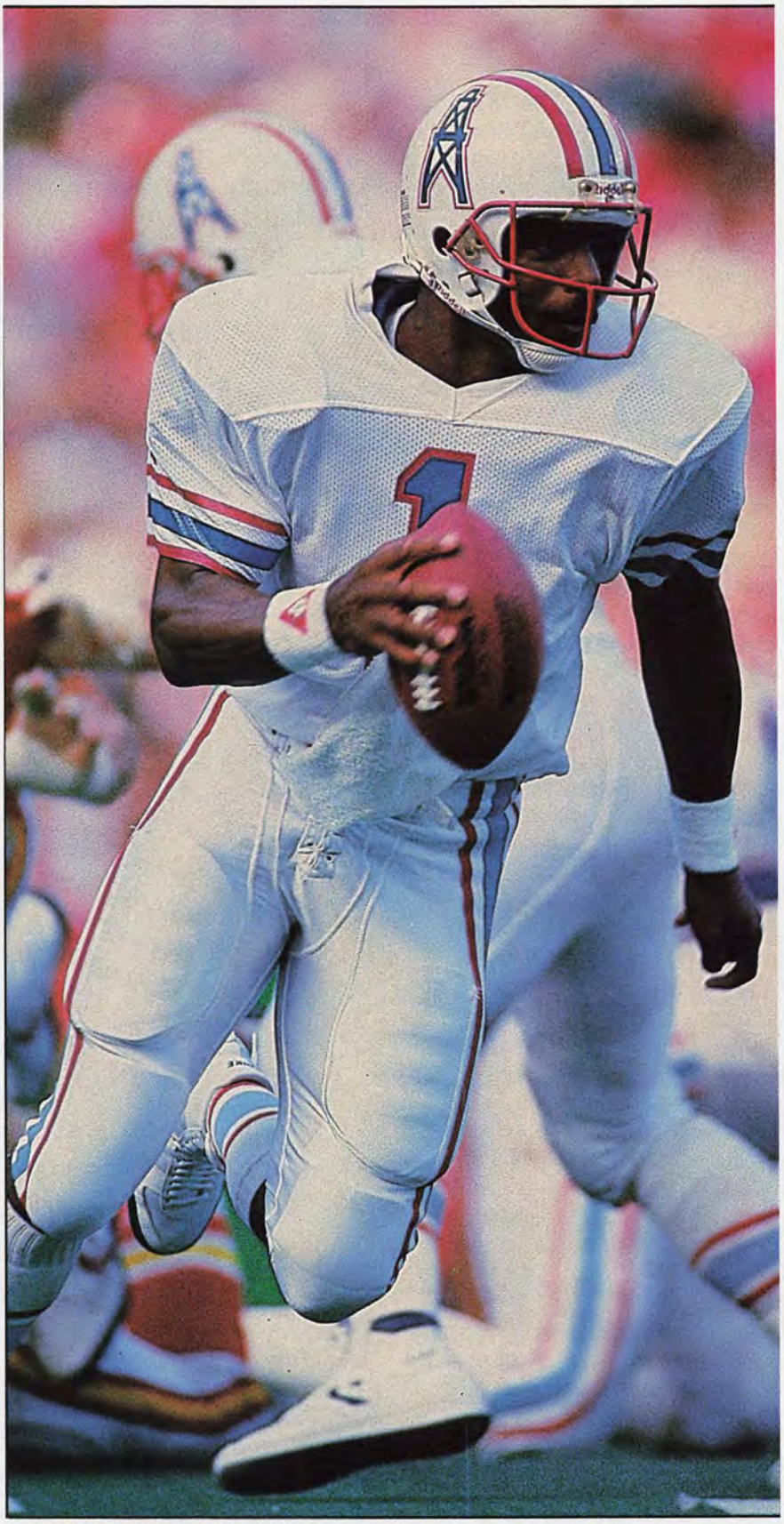
The Oilers lost perhaps their best long-range linebacker in Frank Bush, who suffered a neck sprain in Week 3 last season. It was discovered that he has a spinal column abnormality, and was told repeatedly by spine specialists to retire.

Robert Lyles and Johnny Meads are the starting outside linebackers, both active, both good blitzers. Meads replaced Bush. John Grimsley, who beat out '85 leading tackler Avon Riley, went on to lead the Oilers in tackles in '86.

The Houston secondary is a reminder that this team is getting better with age. Cornerbacks Patrick Allen and Steve Brown are good cover people. They have to be because Glanville uses mostly man-for-man coverages.

Safeties Keith Bostic and Bo Eason are "Batman" and "Robin", both big hitters. Eason is coming back from a foot injury that shortened his season and will be hard-pressed to regain his starting job. Donaldson finished the season strong at free safety.

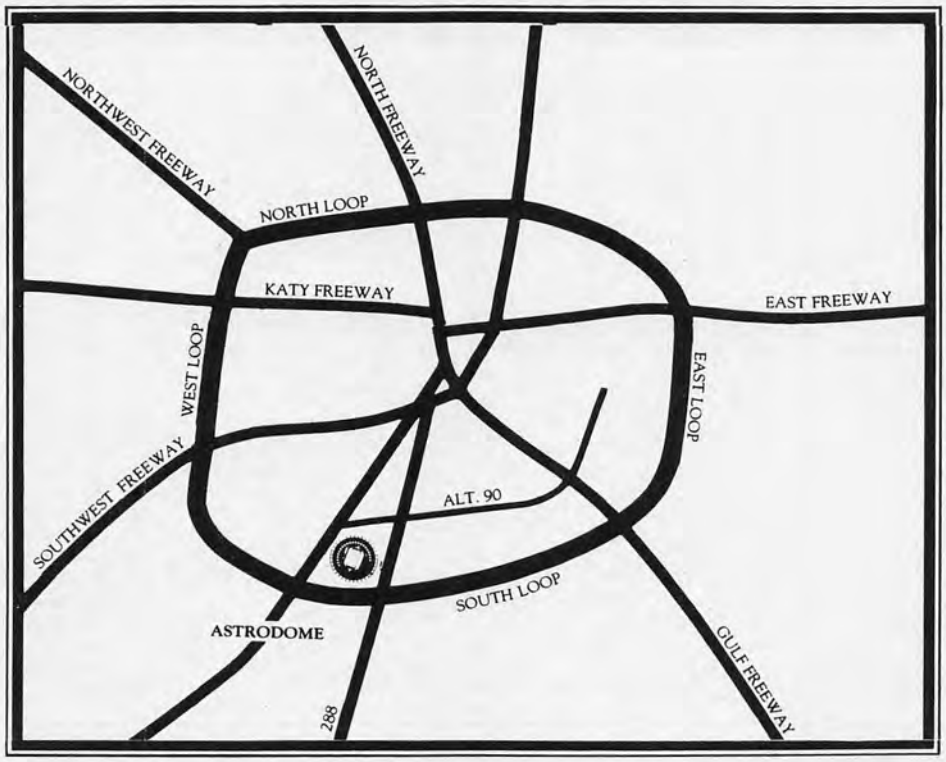
The Oilers seem to be a good team waiting to happen. As Glanville likes to say, "somebody is going to pay for these hangings." □



Warren Moon will try to brighten Houston's future

OILERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1A	Alonzo **HIGHSMITH** *RB*	6-1, 235	**Miami**	'86 led team in rushing with 442 yds. on 105 carries (4.2 avg.) & 4 TD's...caught 30 passes for 416 yds. (13.9 avg.) & 4 TD's.
1B	Haywood **JEFFRIES** *WR*	6-2, 198	**No. Carolina**	'86 second team All-ACC...40 recpts. for 591 yds. (14.8 avg.) & 4 TD's...added 67 yds. on 3 rushing attps.
2	Walter **JOHNSON** *DT*	6-1, 250	**Louisiana Tech**	'86 first team All-Southland Conf. 88 tackles (56 solos), 14 sacks, 6 fmb. cau., 2 fmb. rec., 1 int., 1 deflection, 1 blk. punt.
3	Cody **CARLSON** *QB*	6-3, 201	**Baylor**	'86 first team All-SWC choice & All-American Hon. Men...comp. 157 of 287 passes for 2284 yds. & 10 TDs...Also second on team in rushing.
4	Mark **DUSBABEK** *LB*	6-3, 232	**Minnesota**	'86...51 tackles (28 solos), 3 sacks, 2 fmb. cau. & 1 fmb. rec.
5	Spencer **TILLMAN** *FB*	5-11, 206	**Oklahoma**	'86 All-Big 8...rushed for 519 yds. on 80 carries (6.5 avg.) & 2 TD's.
6A	Al **SMITH** *LB*	6-1, 230	**Utah St.**	All-PCAA...League Defensive Player of the Year...106 tackles (66 solos) 3 int's, 2 deflections, 2 fmb. rec.
6B	Toby **CASTON** *ILB*	6-1, 235	**LSU**	'86 first team All-SEC...97 tackles (54 solos)...3 sacks & 4 tackles for 26 yds. in losses...1 pass int. & 2 pass deflections.
7	Robert **BANKS** *DE-OLB*	6-5, 254	**Notre Dame**	'86 All-American Hon. Men...57 tackles (33 solos), 8 tackles for 32 yds. in losses & 4 sacks...2 fmb. rec., 1 fmb. cau.
8	Michel **JAMES** *WR*	6-0, 188	**Washington St.**	'86 All-PAC 10 Hon. Men...led team with 33 catches for 481 yds. (14.6 avg.) and a TD.
9	Wes **NEIGHBORS** *C*	6-2, 250	**Alabama**	SEC Jacobs Blocking Trophy Winner...'86 All-SEC...received an 89% blocking grade on the year.
10	Curtis **DUNCAN** *WR-KR*	6-2, 204	**Northwestern**	'86 All-Big 10 Conf. Hon. Men...led the team with 29 recpts. for 437 yds. (15.1 avg.) & 2 TD's.
11	John **DAVIS** *OT*	6-4, 304	**Georgia Tech**	Handled all the team deep snapping duties...'86 first team All-ACC at center various All-American honors...blocking of 93%.
12	Ira **VALENTINE** *RB*	5-11, 216	**Texas A&M**	'86 rushed for 196 yds. on 46 carries & 2 TD's



1987 AFC SCHEDULES

BUFFALO BILLS

Sep. 13 NEW YORK JETS 1:00
Sep. 20 HOUSTON 1:00
Sep. 27 at Dallas 12:00
Oct. 4 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Oct. 11 at New England 1:00
Oct. 18 NEW YORK GIANTS 4:00
Oct. 25 at Miami 1:00
Nov. 1 WASHINGTON 1:00
Nov. 8 DENVER 1:00
Nov. 15 at Cleveland 1:00
Nov. 22 at New York Jets 1:00
Nov. 29 MIAMI 1:00
Dec. 6 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Dec. 13 at Indianapolis 1:00
Dec. 20 NEW ENGLAND 1:00
Dec. 27 at Philadelphia 1:00

CINCINNATI BENGALS

Sep. 13 at Indianapolis 12:00
Sep. 20 SAN FRANCISCO 1:00
Sep. 27 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Oct. 4 SAN DIEGO 1:00
Oct. 11 at Seattle 1:00
Oct. 18 CLEVELAND 1:00
Oct. 25 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Nov. 1 HOUSTON 1:00
Nov. 8 MIAMI 4:00
Nov. 15 at Atlanta 4:00
Nov. 22 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Nov. 29 at New York Jets 1:00
Dec. 6 KANSAS CITY 1:00
Dec. 13 at Cleveland 1:00
Dec. 20 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Dec. 27 at Houston 12:00

CLEVELAND BROWNS

Sep. 13 at New Orleans 12:00
Sep. 20 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Sep. 28 DENVER (Mon.) 9:00
Oct. 4 at New England 1:00
Oct. 11 HOUSTON 1:00
Oct. 18 at Cincinnati 1:00
Oct. 26 LOS ANGELES RAMS (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 1 at San Diego 1:00
Nov. 8 ATLANTA 1:00
Nov. 15 BUFFALO 1:00
Nov. 22 at Houston 12:00
Nov. 29 at San Francisco 5:00
Dec. 6 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Dec. 13 CINCINNATI 1:00
Dec. 20 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Dec. 26 at Pittsburgh (Sat.) 12:30

DENVER BRONCOS

Sep. 13 SEATTLE 2:00
Sep. 20 vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee 12:00
Sep. 28 at Cleveland (Mon.) 9:00
Oct. 4 HOUSTON 2:00
Oct. 12 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (Mon.) 7:00
Oct. 18 at Kansas City 3:00
Oct. 25 at Minnesota 12:00
Nov. 1 DETROIT 2:00
Nov. 8 at Buffalo 1:00
Nov. 16 CHICAGO (Mon.) 7:00
Nov. 22 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Nov. 29 at San Diego 1:00
Dec. 6 NEW ENGLAND 2:00
Dec. 13 at Seattle 5:00
Dec. 19 KANSAS CITY (Sat.) 2:00
Dec. 27 SAN DIEGO 2:00

HOUSTON OILERS

Sep. 13 LOS ANGELES RAMS 12:00
Sep. 20 at Buffalo 1:00
Sep. 27 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 12:00
Oct. 4 at Denver 2:00
Oct. 11 at Cleveland 1:00
Oct. 18 NEW ENGLAND 12:00
Oct. 25 ATLANTA 12:00
Nov. 1 at Cincinnati 1:00
Nov. 8 at San Francisco 1:00
Nov. 15 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Nov. 22 CLEVELAND 12:00
Nov. 29 at Indianpolis 1:00
Dec. 6 SAN DIEGO 12:00
Dec. 13 at New Orleans 12:00
Dec. 20 PITTSBURGH 12:00
Dec. 27 CINCINNATI 12:00

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

Sep. 13 CINCINNATI 12:00
Sep. 20 MIAMI 12:00
Sep. 27 at St. Louis 12:00
Oct. 4 at Buffalo 1:00
Oct. 11 NEW YORK JETS 12:00
Oct. 18 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Oct. 25 NEW ENGLAND 1:00
Nov. 1 at New York Jets 1:00
Nov. 8 SAN DIEGO 1:00
Nov. 15 at Miami 1:00
Nov. 22 at New England 1:00
Nov. 29 HOUSTON 1:00
Dec. 6 at Cleveland 1:00
Dec. 13 BUFFALO 1:00
Dec. 20 at San Diego 1:00
Dec. 27 TAMPA BAY 1:00

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

Sep. 13 SAN DIEGO 12:00
Sep. 20 at Seattle 1:00
Sep. 27 MINNESOTA 12:00
Oct. 4 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Oct. 11 at Miami 1:00
Oct. 18 DENVER 3:00
Oct. 25 at San Diego 1:00
Nov. 1 at Chicago 12:00
Nov. 8 PITTSBURGH 12:00
Nov. 15 NEW YORK JETS 12:00
Nov. 22 GREEN BAY 12:00
Nov. 26 at Detroit (Thanks.) 12:30
Dec. 6 at Cincinnati 1:00
Dec. 13 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 3:00
Dec. 19 at Denver (Sat.) 2:00
Dec. 27 SEATTLE 12:00

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

Sep. 13 at Green Bay 3:00
Sep. 20 DETROIT 1:00
Sep. 27 at Houston 12:00
Oct. 4 KANSAS CITY 1:00
Oct. 12 at Denver (Mon.) 7:00
Oct. 18 SAN DIEGO 1:00
Oct. 25 SEATTLE 1:00
Nov. 1 at New England 1:00
Nov. 8 at Minnesota 12:00
Nov. 15 at San Diego 5:00
Nov. 22 DENVER 1:00
Nov. 30 at Seattle (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 6 BUFFALO 1:00
Dec. 13 at Kansas City 3:00
Dec. 20 CLEVELAND 1:00
Dec. 27 CHICAGO 1:00

MIAMI DOLPHINS

Sep. 13 at New England 1:00
Sep. 20 at Indianapolis 12:00
Sep. 27 NEW YORK GIANTS 1:00
Oct. 4 at Seattle 1:00
Oct. 11 KANSAS CITY 1:00
Oct. 18 at New York Jets 1:00
Oct. 25 BUFFALO 1:00
Nov. 1 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Nov. 8 at Cincinnati 4:00
Nov. 15 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Nov. 22 at Dallas 7:00
Nov. 29 at Buffalo 1:00
Dec. 7 NEW YORK JETS (Mon.) 9:00
Dec. 13 at Philadelphia 1:00
Dec. 20 WASHINGTON 8:00
Dec. 28 NEW ENGLAND (Mon.) 9:00

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

Sep. 13 MIAMI 1:00
Sep. 21 at New York Jets (Mon.) 9:00
Sep. 27 at Washington 1:00
Oct. 4 CLEVELAND 1:00
Oct. 11 BUFFALO 1:00
Oct. 18 at Houston 12:00
Oct. 25 at Indianapolis 1:00
Nov. 1 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 1:00
Nov. 8 at New York Giants 8:00
Nov. 15 DALLAS 1:00
Nov. 22 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Nov. 29 PHILADELPHIA 1:00
Dec. 6 at Denver 2:00
Dec. 13 NEW YORK JETS 1:00
Dec. 20 at Buffalo 1:00
Dec. 28 at Miami (Mon.) 9:00

NEW YORK JETS

Sep. 13 at Buffalo 1:00
Sep. 21 NEW ENGLAND (Mon.) 9:00
Sep. 27 at Pittsburgh 4:00
Oct. 4 DALLAS 4:00
Oct. 11 at Indianapolis 12:00
Oct. 18 MIAMI 1:00
Oct. 25 at Washington 1:00
Nov. 1 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Nov. 9 SEATTLE (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 15 at Kansas City 12:00
Nov. 22 BUFFALO 1:00
Nov. 29 CINCINNATI 1:00
Dec. 7 at Miami (Mon.) 9:00
Dec. 13 at New England 1:00
Dec. 20 PHILADELPHIA 1:00
Dec. 27 at New York Giants 1:00

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

Sep. 13 SAN FRANCISCO 1:00
Sep. 20 at Cleveland 1:00
Sep. 27 NEW YORK JETS 4:00
Oct. 4 at Atlanta 1:00
Oct. 11 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Oct. 18 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Oct. 25 CINCINNATI 1:00
Nov. 1 at Miami 1:00
Nov. 8 at Kansas City 12:00
Nov. 15 HOUSTON 1:00
Nov. 22 at Cincinnati 1:00
Nov. 29 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Dec. 6 SEATTLE 1:00
Dec. 13 at San Diego 1:00
Dec. 20 at Houston 12:00
Dec. 26 CLEVELAND (Sat.) 12:30

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sep. 13 at Kansas City 12:00
Sep. 20 ST. LOUIS 1:00
Sep. 27 SEATTLE 1:00
Oct. 4 at Cincinnati 1:00
Oct. 11 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Oct. 18 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Oct. 25 KANSAS CITY 1:00
Nov. 1 CLEVELAND 1:00
Nov. 8 at Indianapolis 1:00
Nov. 15 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 5:00
Nov. 22 at Seattle 1:00
Nov. 29 DENVER 1:00
Dec. 6 at Houston 12:00
Dec. 13 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Dec. 20 INDIANAPOLIS 1:00
Dec. 27 at Denver 2:00

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

Sep. 13 at Denver 2:00
Sep. 20 KANSAS CITY 1:00
Sep. 27 at San Diego 1:00
Oct. 4 MIAMI 1:00
Oct. 11 CINCINNATI 1:00
Oct. 18 at Detroit 1:00
Oct. 25 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Nov. 1 MINNESOTA 1:00
Nov. 9 at New York Jets (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 15 GREEN BAY 1:00
Nov. 22 SAN DIEGO 1:00
Nov. 30 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 6 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Dec. 13 DENVER 5:00
Dec. 20 at Chicago 12:00
Dec. 27 at Kansas City 12:00

(All times local. All games Sunday unless otherwise noted.)

1987 NFC SCHEDULES

ATLANTA FALCONS

Sep. 13 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Sep. 20 WASHINTGON 1:00
Sep. 27 at New Orleans 12:00
Oct. 4 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Oct. 11 at San Francisco 1:00
Oct. 18 LOS ANGELES RAMS 1:00
Oct. 25 at Houston 12:00
Nov. 1 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Nov. 8 at Cleveland 1:00
Nov. 15 CINCINNATI 4:00
Nov. 22 at Minnesota 12:00
Nov. 29 ST. LOUIS 1:00
Dec. 6 at Dallas 12:00
Dec. 13 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Dec. 20 SAN FRANCISCO 1:00
Dec. 27 DETROIT 1:00

CHICAGO BEARS

Sep. 14 NEW YORK GIANTS (Mon.) 8:00
Sep. 20 TAMPA BAY 12:00
Sep. 27 at Detroit 1:00
Oct. 4 at Philadelphia 1:00
Oct. 11 MINNESOTA 12:00
Oct. 18 NEW ORLEANS 12:00
Oct. 25 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Nov. 1 KANSAS CITY 12:00
Nov. 8 at Green Bay 12:00
Nov. 16 at Denver (Mon.) 7:00
Nov. 22 DETROIT 12:00
Nov. 29 GREEN BAY 12:00
Dec. 6 at Minnesota 7:00
Dec. 14 at San Francisco (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 20 SEATTLE 12:00
Dec. 27 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00

DALLAS COWBOYS

Sep. 13 at St. Louis 12:00
Sep. 20 at New York Giants 4:00
Sep. 27 BUFFALO 12:00
Oct. 4 at New York Jets 4:00
Oct. 11 PHILADELPHIA 12:00
Oct. 19 WASHINGTON (Mon.) 8:00
Oct. 25 at Philadelphia 1:00
Nov. 2 NEW YORK GIANTS (Mon.) 8:00
Nov. 8 at Detroit 1:00
Nov. 15 at New England 1:00
Nov. 22 MIAMI 7:00
Nov. 26 MINNESOTA (Thanks.) 3:00
Dec. 6 ATLANTA 12:00
Dec. 13 at Washington 1:00
Dec. 21 at Los Angeles Rams (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 27 ST. LOUIS 12:00

DETROIT LIONS

Sep. 13 at Minnesota 12:00
Sep. 20 at Los Angeles Raiders 1:00
Sep. 27 CHICAGO 1:00
Oct. 4 TAMPA BAY 1:00
Oct. 11 at Green Bay 12:00
Oct. 18 SEATTLE 1:00
Oct. 25 GREEN BAY 1:00
Nov. 1 at Denver 2:00
Nov. 8 DALLAS 1:00
Nov. 15 at Washington 1:00
Nov. 22 at Chicago 12:00
Nov. 26 KANSAS CITY (Thanks.) 12:30
Dec. 6 LOS ANGELES RAMS 1:00
Dec. 13 at Tampa Bay 4:00
Dec. 20 MINNESOTA 1:00
Dec. 27 at Atlanta 1:00

GREEN BAY PACKERS

Sep. 13 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 3:00
Sep. 20 DENVER at Milwaukee 12:00
Sep. 27 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Oct. 4 at Minnesota 12:00
Oct. 11 DETROIT 12:00
Oct. 18 PHILADELPHIA 12:00
Oct. 25 at Detroit 1:00
Nov. 1 TAMPA BAY at Milwaukee 12:00
Nov. 8 CHICAGO 12:00
Nov. 15 at Seattle 1:00
Nov. 22 at Kansas City 12:00
Nov. 29 at Chicago 12:00
Dec. 6 SAN FRANCISCO 12:00
Dec. 13 MINNESOTA at Milwaukee 12:00
Dec. 19 at New York Giants (Sat.) 12:30
Dec. 27 at New Orleans 12:00

LOS ANGELES RAMS

Sep. 13 at Houston 12:00
Sep. 20 MINNESOTA 1:00
Sep. 27 CINCINNATI 1:00
Oct. 4 at New Orleans 12:00
Oct. 11 PITTSBURGH 1:00
Oct. 18 at Atlanta 1:00
Oct. 26 at Cleveland (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 1 SAN FRANCISCO 1:00
Nov. 8 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Nov. 15 at St. Louis 12:00
Nov. 23 at Washington (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 29 TAMPA BAY 1:00
Dec. 6 at Detroit 1:00
Dec. 13 ATLANTA 1:00
Dec. 21 DALLAS (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 27 at San Francisco 5:00

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

Sep. 13 DETROIT 12:00
Sep. 20 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Sep. 27 at Kansas City 12:00
Oct. 4 GREEN BAY 12:00
Oct. 11 at Chicago 12:00
Oct. 18 TAMPA BAY 12:00
Oct. 25 DENVER 12:00
Nov. 1 at Seattle 1:00
Nov. 8 LOS ANGELES RAIDERS 12:00
Nov. 15 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Nov. 22 ATLANTA 12:00
Nov. 26 at Dallas (Thanks.) 3:00
Dec. 6 CHICAGO 7:00
Dec. 13 vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee 12:00
Dec. 20 at Detroit 1:00
Dec. 26 WASHINGTON (Sat.) 3:00

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

Sep. 13 CLEVELAND 12:00
Sep. 20 at Philadelphia 1:00
Sep. 27 ATLANTA 12:00
Oct. 4 LOS ANGELES RAMS 12:00
Oct. 11 at St. Louis 12:00
Oct. 18 at Chicago 12:00
Oct. 25 SAN FRANCISCO 12:00
Nov. 1 at Atlanta 1:00
Nov. 8 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Nov. 15 at San Francisco 1:00
Nov. 22 NEW YORK GIANTS 3:00
Nov. 29 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Dec. 6 TAMPA BAY 3:00
Dec. 13 HOUSTON 12:00
Dec. 20 at Cincinnati 1:00
Dec. 27 GREEN BAY 12:00

NEW YORK GIANTS

Sep. 14 at Chicago (Mon.) 8:00
Sep. 20 DALLAS 4:00
Sep. 27 at Miami 1:00
Oct. 5 SAN FRANCISCO (Mon.) 9:00
Oct. 11 WASHINGTON 4:00
Oct. 18 at Buffalo 4:00
Oct. 25 ST. LOUIS 4:00
Nov. 2 at Dallas (Mon.) 8:00
Nov. 8 NEW ENGLAND 8:00
Nov. 15 at Philadelphia 4:00
Nov. 22 at New Orleans 3:00
Nov. 29 at Washington 4:00
Dec. 6 PHILADELPHIA 1:00
Dec. 13 at St. Louis 3:00
Dec. 19 GREEN BAY (Sat.) 12:30
Dec. 27 NEW YORK JETS 1:00

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Sep. 13 at Washington 1:00
Sep. 20 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Sep. 27 at San Francisco 1:00
Oct. 4 CHICAGO 1:00
Oct. 11 at Dallas 12:00
Oct. 18 at Green Bay 12:00
Oct. 25 DALLAS 1:00
Nov. 1 at St. Louis 12:00
Nov. 8 WASHINGTON 1:00
Nov. 15 NEW YORK GIANTS 4:00
Nov. 22 ST. LOUIS 1:00
Nov. 29 at New England 1:00
Dec. 6 at New York Giants 1:00
Dec. 13 MIAMI 1:00
Dec. 20 at New York Jets 1:00
Dec. 27 BUFFALO 1:00

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

Sep. 13 DALLAS 12:00
Sep. 20 at San Diego 1:00
Sep. 27 INDIANAPOLIS 12:00
Oct. 4 at Washington 1:00
Oct. 11 NEW ORLEANS 12:00
Oct. 18 at San Francisco 1:00
Oct. 25 at New York Giants 4:00
Nov. 1 PHILADELPHIA 12:00
Nov. 8 TAMPA BAY 12:00
Nov. 15 LOS ANGELES RAMS 12:00
Nov. 22 at Philadelphia 1:00
Nov. 29 at Atlanta 1:00
Dec. 6 WASHINGTON 12:00
Dec. 13 NEW YORK GIANTS 3:00
Dec. 20 at Tampa Bay 4:00
Dec. 27 at Dallas 12:00

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

Sep. 13 at Pittsburgh 1:00
Sep. 20 at Cincinnati 1:00
Sep. 27 PHILADELPHIA 1:00
Oct. 5 at New York Giants (Mon.) 9:00
Oct. 11 ATLANTA 1:00
Oct. 18 ST. LOUIS 1:00
Oct. 25 at New Orleans 12:00
Nov. 1 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Nov. 8 HOUSTON 1:00
Nov. 15 NEW ORLEANS 1:00
Nov. 22 at Tampa Bay 1:00
Nov. 29 CLEVELAND 5:00
Dec. 6 at Green Bay 12:00
Dec. 14 CHICAGO (Mon.) 6:00
Dec. 20 at Atlanta 1:00
Dec. 27 LOS ANGELES RAMS 5:00

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

Sep. 13 ATLANTA 1:00
Sep. 20 at Chicago 12:00
Sep. 27 GREEN BAY 1:00
Oct. 4 at Detroit 1:00
Oct. 11 SAN DIEGO 1:00
Oct. 18 at Minnesota 12:00
Oct. 25 CHICAGO 1:00
Nov. 1 vs. Green Bay at Milwaukee 12:00
Nov. 8 at St. Louis 12:00
Nov. 15 MINNESOTA 1:00
Nov. 22 SAN FRANCISCO 1:00
Nov. 29 at Los Angeles Rams 1:00
Dec. 6 at New Orleans 3:00
Dec. 13 DETROIT 4:00
Dec. 20 ST. LOUIS 4:00
Dec. 27 at Indianapolis 1:00

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

Sep. 13 PHILADELPHIA 1:00
Sep. 20 at Atlanta 1:00
Sep. 27 NEW ENGLAND 1:00
Oct. 4 ST. LOUIS 1:00
Oct. 11 at New York Giants 4:00
Oct. 19 at Dallas (Mon.) 8:00
Oct. 25 NEW YORK JETS 1:00
Nov. 1 at Buffalo 1:00
Nov. 8 at Philadelphia 1:00
Nov. 15 DETROIT 1:00
Nov. 23 LOS ANGELES RAMS (Mon.) 9:00
Nov. 29 NEW YORK GIANTS 4:00
Dec. 6 at St. Louis 12:00
Dec. 13 DALLAS 1:00
Dec. 20 at Miami 8:00
Dec. 26 at Minnesota (Sat.) 3:00

(All times local. All games Sunday unless otherwise noted.)

DRAFT ANALYSIS

continued from page 45

ground game.

5. New York Jets—Player personnel director Mike Hickey said he blew it a year ago when his team drafted for 'need', which was offensive linemen. "We won't do that again," said Hickey, "we went back to doing what we did before, taking the best player left on the board." On the first pick he took Roger Vick, the fine running back from Texas A & M, followed by linebacker Alex Gordon of Cincinnati in the second.

Central Division

Best in Show: 1. Houston—The Buffalo maneuver, and a cluster of picks to begin with, made general manager Ladd Herzig's draft. "We came out of the first round with the two players we gambled on," said Herzig after taking Highsmith as the third player picked overall, and getting Haywood Jeffries of N.C. State, the best receiver in the draft, with the 20th pick on the first round.

2. Pittsburgh—Steeler coach Chuck Noll was surprised to see defensive back Rod Woodson of Purdue still on the board when it was his turn (10th overall) to pick, but he didn't hesitate. "We would not trade him for any other player in the draft," said Noll, "we think he was the best athlete in this draft." Ray Perkins of Tampa Bay might agree with that one. "I think Woodson was not only the best defensive back, but could be the best running back, if he wanted to be. He played some running back at Purdue and was great."

3. Cleveland—The Browns made a bold move, trading their most visible defensive player, All-Pro linebacker Chip Banks, to the San Diego Chargers while both teams swapped their picks. "We felt it was the right thing for us to do," said Browns owner Art Modell. "We took Mike Junkin (Duke linebacker). Our people compared him to Jack Lambert, and that is the highest praise in my mind."

4. Cincinnati—The Bengals never get real excited about playing defense. They just try to do the job. Mike Brown said his team would continue to try to build its defense, and did just that, by going after Jason Buck of BYU, who could be the best pass rusher in the draft. "He has outstanding ability," said Brown.

Western Division

1. Best in Show: Kansas City—The Chiefs just had to have running backs so they got two—Paul Palmer, the explosive dynamo from Temple, and Christian Okoye of Azusa Pacific, the most interesting pick in the entire draft. Okoye is a Nigerian with only three years football experience, yet was the most valuable player in the Senior Bowl this year and a big tough back. After the unfortunate death of Joe Delaney and failure of Ethan Horton (a first round pick) the Chiefs had to get some runners.

The Buffalo maneuver, and a cluster of picks to begin with, made general manager Ladd Herzig's draft. "We came out of the first round with the two players we gambled on . . .

2. Los Angeles Raiders—With the two oldest starting offensive tackles in the league, Henry Lawrence (36) and Shelby Jordan (35), the Raiders targeted that position taking John Clay, 300 pounds plus, from Missouri and Bruce Wilkerson of Tennessee on the first two picks. In his own way, Al Davis, found a way to make it exciting, taking Bo Jackson of Auburn and the Kansas City Royals in the middle of the draft. "We think he can play both," said Davis, "if there is anyone who can, it will be Bo Jackson."

3. Seattle—Chuck Knox felt his defense was getting some age and lot slower so he did something about it, taking aggressive Tony Woods (LB) of Pittsburgh, followed by (LB) Dave Wyman of Stanford and (DB) Mark Moore out of Oklahoma State. "We went for people we thought were 'Thumpers'," said Knox. "We wanted some people on defense who can make things happen, create some turnovers and we think we got them."

4. San Diego—This was a tough draft for the Chargers. How it comes out will depend on Chip Banks. They swapped their first two choices to get him, with the hope that his experience could pull together the always questionable Charger defense. The Chargers seemed to help themselves by taking Rod Bernstine of Texas A & M with the 24th pick in the first round, as insurance for the veteran Kelvin Winslow, who did not return to form in 1986.

5. Denver—The Broncos learned that the Super Bowl has its drawbacks when you have to draft 27th the next year. Dan Reeves tried to compensate by taking wide receiver Ricky Nattiel, considered the second best in the draft, and linebacker Michael Brooks of LSU, who would have been taken higher, except for a knee injury he suffered last year. The Broncos surprised everyone before the draft by offering starting running backs from their Super Bowl team, Gerald Wilhite and Sammy Winder around the league, showing they could be making another trade for a runner before this season is over.

NFC

Eastern Division

1. Best in Show: Philadelphia Eagles—Coach Buddy Ryan set the land speed mark for making a draft choice. No sooner had the Buffalo Bills announced Conlan the choice before his, Buddy had his runner at the NFL headquarters in N.Y. walking toward Rozelle with the name Jerome Brown, defensive tackle, Miami. Most of the good teams in the league thought he was the best player in the draft. "I told my offensive lineman the morning after the draft that when we play Philly this season we better bring some chains to handle guys like Brown and Reggie White," said Giants coach Bill Parcells.

2. Dallas—Tom Landry said he would start rebuilding his defense, and he did by taking Danny Noonan of Nebraska,

■ *continued on page 223*

AMERICAN FOOTBALL CONFERENCE

Western Division

DENVER BRONCOS

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

DENVER BRONCOS

BRONCOS SEEK ANOTHER SUPER BOWL BID

BY MICHAEL KNISLEY

Dan Reeves didn't need to look beyond three plays to know what was wrong with the Denver Broncos' offense during the 1986 season. Three elementary plays out of all those formations and all those calls—and they were myriad through 23 games (four exhibitions, 16 in the regular season and three playoff games)—and Reeves could begin planning for 1987.

Play No. 1: First-and-goal from the 1-yard line in the second quarter of the Super Bowl. Quarterback John Elway rolls to the right and is tackled by the Giants' Lawrence Taylor for a 1-yard loss.

Play No. 2: Second-and-goal from the 2-yard line in the second quarter of the Super Bowl. Gerald Willhite takes a handoff up the middle. Harry Carson stops him for no gain.

Play No. 3: Third-and-goal from the 2-yard line in the second quarter of the Super Bowl. Sammy Winder sweeps to the left and is whammied for a four-yard loss by Carl Banks.

On fourth down, Rich Karlis missed a 23-yard field-goal attempt; and with it, the Broncos missed a chance to take command of Super Bowl XXI. When it was over, Denver was a 39-20 loser and Reeves was already looking ahead.

"You know, you look at it, and that's where a running game—or lack of a running game—really hurts you," Reeves said. "When you get down in that area where there's less room for a defense to cover, and you're not able to run the ball, it gets awful tough."

Denver's off-again, on-again running attack ranked only 20th in the league last season, and it mustered all of 52 net yards against the Giants in the Super Bowl. Of those 52 yards, 27 came on quarterback scrambles.

In the end, it became painfully apparent to the Broncos that you can't hide if you can't run. No wonder Reeves' No. 1 priority in '87 is to find a way to move the football on the ground. In the offseason, he outlined a three-point program for upgrading his running game that included a new emphasis on the weight program, and exhaustive search for talent in the draft and a long look at the team's offensive philosophy.

But can Reeves revitalize a running game with the same group of running backs that didn't produce the big rushing numbers in '86? Sammy Winder (5' 11", 203), for instance, has played in two of the last three Pro Bowls, has led the team in rushing in each of the last five seasons and set a Broncos' team record for touchdowns with 14 last year. But even Winder, aware of Denver's shortcomings, admitted after the season that his days as the Broncos' premier back may be over.

Beyond Winder, Reeves has at his disposal a solid, if unspectacular, group of journeymen that includes do-everything halfback Gerald Willhite (5' 10", 200), fullback Gene Lang (5' 10", 196), receiver/running back Steve Sewell (6' 3", 210) and kick-returning specialist Ken Bell (5' 10", 190). Willhite's 1986 season was his best since he came to Denver as the Broncos' No. 1 draft pick in 1982, and Bell showed signs of life returning kickoffs late last year.

But Sewell's best contributions come in the passing game and Lang was of little help in '86. Neither figures to solve the problems in the running game. Of those five backs, only Sewell has any appreciable size, which has Reeves looking for a big, old-fashioned fullback type.

"In the two-back offense," Reeves said, "you need a blocker who's a big guy. Our little guys will all block you, but when you're talking about 200 pounds against 260, you're not going to get much movement."

To remedy that situation, Reeves will try tight end Bobby Micho (6' 3", 240) at fullback this summer.

The Broncos will try to find a lineman or two who can get some movement for the run, too. Veteran Paul Howard underwent major knee surgery late last season and is almost a certainty to retire before the 1987 season begins, creating an opening at right guard. The heir apparent is Mark Cooper (6' 5", 267), but Cooper has never fully answered the questions that get asked about a fifth-year player who hasn't become a starter.

The other help may come from tackle Jim Juriga (6' 6", 269), the team's top

draft pick a year ago who was lost to knee surgery just before the season started. Juriga's run-blocking was impressive enough in camp last summer to take the starting left tackle job away from Dave Studdard (6′ 4″, 260), but his rehabilitation process may not be completed by the start of the regular season.

A successful return for Juriga at left tackle may allow Reeves to move Studdard back to guard, where he started for the Broncos in 1982.

The other three line spots are nailed down. Left guard Keith Bishop (6′ 3″, 265) emerged as one of the best in the business last year, becoming the first Bronco lineman to play in the NFL's Pro Bowl. Right tackle Ken Lanier (6′ 3″, 269) is a five-year starter, and Billy Bryan (6′ 2″, 255) continues to be perhaps the league's most underrated center.

But all of them are small by NFL standards, which helps explain their problems opening holes for the running game. Consequently, Reeves has another little experiment in mind in top reserve Daniel Remsberg, who played at 275 pounds a year ago. At 6′ 6″, Remsberg has the frame to carry more weight and was expected to report at close to 300 pounds this season. That ought to help.

"We've got to improve our running game," Reeves said. "I think our offensive line blocks for the pass extremely well, but we do not run the ball well. It's easier to stop a one-dimensional football team than a two-dimensional team, so we've got to work to improve the running game."

But the fact is, very few teams stopped the one dimension the Broncos had in 1986. Very few teams stopped Elway, who staked a very legitimate claim to the title of the NFL's premier quarterback with his performances in the playoffs last year.

Elway's numbers, interestingly, were down somewhat in 1986 from his 1985 statistics. His 3,485 passing yards were more than 400 fewer than he had in '85 and he threw four fewer touchdowns (19) last year than he did in '85. But his interceptions were down, too, last season— from a career-high 23 in 1985 to a career-low 13 in 1986.

In the playoffs he was sensational, catching the fancy of a national television audience, with the 98-yard touchdown drive in the closing moments against Cleveland that won the AFC championship game and throwing for 304 yards against the Giants two weeks later in the Super Bowl.

"I don't know anybody I want for him," Reeves said. "And John will just continue to improve, as most quarterbacks do, through experience. He'll continue to see things better and do things better. But I still think the biggest improvement in John will come with the people around him. When we improve the personnel around him, you'll see a big improvement in John."

That improvement process started in earnest a year ago with the additions to the passing game of rookie wide receiver Mark Jackson (5′ 9″, 174) and rookie tight end Orson Mobley (6′ 5″, 256). Jackson caught 38 passes (second only to veteran Steve Watson among the team's wide receivers) and Mobley added 22 receptions during the regular season as the Broncos were able to stretch defenses further than at any other time in Elway's career.

Add a possession receiver in Watson (45 receptions) and another speedster in third-year man Vance Johnson (hurt for nearly half the '86 season), and Elway has plenty of targets for those beebees that come out of his right arm.

Reeves can turn in several directions at tight end. In Clarence Kay (6′ 2″, 237), he has one of the best blocking tight ends in the game, although Kay struggled through some personal problems late last season that cost him three games; in Joey Hackett (6′ 5″, 267), he has the size to handle most of what an outside linebacker can throw at him and in Mobley, he has size, speed and hands together in one package.

Denver's proud Orange Crush defense finished its championship season on a humbling note, allowing the Giants to score 30 points in the second half of the Super Bowl. And, just as that game exposed the weaknesses in the Broncos' running game, so, too, did the Super Bowl expose a few weaknesses in Denver's defenders.

"We gave up a lot of points to good offensive football teams," Reeves said. "We never gave up a lot of points to, say, an average or even an above-average team. We held our own against most people; but when we got to those good offensive teams, we had some problems."

The Broncos acted quickly in the off-season to move All-Pro defensive end Rulon Jones (6′ 6″, 260) back to the right side of the line, where he played through his first six years. In 1986, Jones was primarily stationed on the left side, and it cost him some effectiveness late in the season. Still, he accounted for a team-high thirteen-and-a-half sacks.

Fourth-year man Andre Townsend (6′ 3″, 265) will start training camp at left end, but he will be pushed by USFL refugee Freddie Gilbert (6′ 4″, 275), who joined the team just prior to the start of the '86 season. Townsend, too, is Denver's swing man on the defensive line and as such will see some playing time at nose tackle in relief of Greg Kragen (6′ 3″, 245), and Tony Colorito (6′ 5″, 260).

The Broncos' defensive linemen suffer from the same lack of size that hinders the offensive line.

"I think from now on, we'll put a minimum level on size," said assistant head coach and defensive coordinator Joe Collier. "There are a lot of good linemen out there who are the same size as the ones we've got, and we've got some good ones, too. But we just feel we've got to try to increase our size, if possible."

That's a problem at outside linebacker, too, where Jim Ryan (6′ 1″, 218) can be overpowered on the power sweeps Denver sees twice yearly from the likes of Marcus Allen and Curt Warner in the AFC West Division. Another position switch might be the answer there, with defensive end Simon Fletcher (6′ 5″, 240) making the move to outside 'backer in camp. Another possibility is Bruce

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
2	**Horan**, Mike	P	5-11	190	4	Long Beach State
3	**Karlis**, Rich	K	6-0	180	6	Cincinnati
7	**Elway**, John	QB	6-3	202	5	Stanford
8	**Kubiak**, Gary	QB	6-0	195	5	Texas A&M
13	**Weil**, Jack	P	5-11	175	2	Wyoming
20	**Wright**, Louis	CB	6-3	195	13	San Jose State
22	**Lilly**, Tony	FS	6-0	199	4	Florida
23	**Winder**, Sammy	RB	5-11	203	6	Southern Mississippi
30	**Sewell**, Steve	RB	6-3	210	3	Oklahoma
31	**Harden**, Mike	CB	6-1	188	8	Michigan
32	**Dudek**, Joe	RB	6-0	181	1	Plymouth St.
33	**Lang**, Gene	RB	5-10	200	4	Louisiana State
35	**Bell**, Ken	RB	5-10	190	1	Boston College
36	**Haynes**, Mark	CB	5-11	195	8	Colorado
43	**Foley**, Steve	FS	6-3	190	11	Tulane
45	**Wilson**, Steve	CB	5-10	192	9	Howard
47	**Willhite**, Gerald	RB	5-10	200	6	San Jose State
48	**Robbins**, Randy	SS	6-2	186	4	Arizona
49	**Smith**, Dennis	SS	6-3	200	7	USC
50	**Ryan**, Jim	OLB	6-1	215	9	William & Mary
52	**Woodard**, Kenneth	OLB	6-1	222	6	Tuskegee Institute
54	**Bishop**, Keith	G-C	6-3	260	7	Baylor
55	**Dennison**, Rick	ILB	6-3	215	6	Colorado State
57	**Jackson**, Tom	OLB	5-11	170	15	Louisville
59	**Comeaux**, Darren	OLB	6-1	227	6	Arizona State
60	**Howard**, Paul	G	6-3	260	14	Brigham Young
61	**Townsend**, Andre	DE-NT	6-3	265	4	Mississippi
62	**Freeman**, Mike	G	6-3	256	3	Arizona
63	**Cooper**, Mark	G	6-5	270	5	Miami
64	**Bryan**, Bill	C	6-2	258	10	Duke
66	**Juriga**, Jim	T	6-6	269	1	Illinois
68	**Carter**, Rubin	NT	6-0	254	13	Miami
69	**Colorito**, Tony	NT	6-5	265	1	USC
70	**Studdard**, Dave	T	6-4	260	9	Texas
71	**Short**, Stan	G-T	6-4	269	2	Penn St.
71	**Kragen**, Greg	NT	6-3	245	3	Utah State
72	**Cameron**, Dallas	LB	6-2	242	2	Miami
73	**Fletcher**, Simon	DE	6-6	248	3	Houston
74	**Remsberg**, Dan	T	6-6	275	2	Abilene Christian
75	**Jones**, Rulon	DE	6-6	255	8	Utah State
76	**Lanier**, Ken	T	6-3	270	7	Florida State
77	**Mecklenburg**, Karl	LB-DE	6-3	245	5	Minnesota
80	**Jackson**, Mark	WR	5-9	180	1	Purdue
81	**Watson**, Steve	WR	6-4	195	9	Temple
82	**Johnson**, Vance	WR	5-11	174	3	Arizona
83	**Rolle**, Gary	WR	5-11	174	2	Florida
84	**Sampson**, Clinton	WR	5-11	185	5	San Diego State
85	**Hackett**, Joey	TE	6-5	267	2	Elon
87	**Micho**, Bobby	TE	6-3	240	3	Texas
88	**Kay**, Clarence	TE	6-2	237	4	Georgia
89	**Mobley**, Orson	TE	6-5	260	1	Salem College
90	**Gilbert**, Freddie	DE	6-4	275	2	Georgia
97	**Klostermann**, Bruce	LB	6-4	225	1	So. Dakota St.
98	**Hunley**, Ricky	ILB	6-2	238	4	Arizona
99	**Woodard**, Raymond	DE	6-6	290	2	Texas

Karl Mecklenburg is hard to contain

Klostermann (6′ 4″, 225), last year's eighth-round draft choice who spent the season on injured reserve.

On the other side, Ken Woodard (6′ 1″, 218) appears ready to take over from 14-year veteran Tom Jackson (5′ 11″, 220).

There is no uncertainty at all about Denver's two starting inside linebackers. Karl Mecklenburg (6′ 3″, 230) has been an All-Pro for the last two seasons, and Ricky Hunley (6′ 2″, 238) stepped in for Steve Busick at the start of the '86 season and led the team in tackles. Rick Dennison (6′ 3″, 220) brings a season and a half of starting experience to his current role as the top backup. There isn't another group in the league Collier would rather have.

"I don't think so," he said. "There are some older veterans who I admire and respect and like because of their experience. They'll make better plays because they've seen things more often and they're only going to play another two or three years. The guys we've got are younger guys and they're going to last a lot longer."

That probably isn't true in the secondary, where cornerback Louis Wright (6′ 3″, 200) and free safety Steve Foley (6′ 3″, 190) are nearing the end of long and illustrious careers with the Broncos. They'll be back in '87, though, along with All-Pro strong safety Dennis Smith (6′ 3″, 200) and right cornerback Mike Harden (6′ 1″, 192).

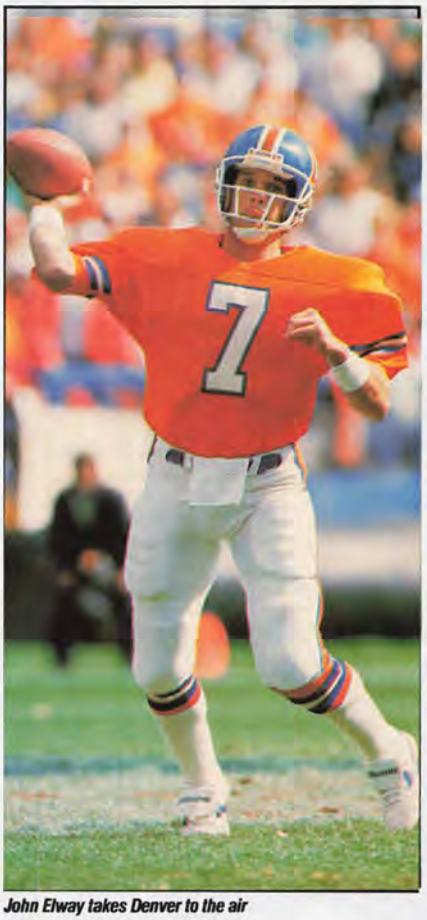
The strength of Denver's defensive backs, though, is in their depth. Collier uses all eight of them liberally, including a rotation last season that had cornerbacks Steve Wilson and Mark Haynes and safeties Randy Robbins and Tony Lilly on the field for every third defensive series.

"I like the way we played them," Collier said. "I like the fact that when a starter goes down, a backup guy goes in there and we don't have a dramatic drop-off."

Haynes, who played the right side behind Harden last year, will be moved to the left side behind Wright in '87, although Reeves has given Haynes something of a start-or-be-traded ultimatum.

Karlis may have a tough time forgetting his two missed field goals from short range (23 and 34 yards) in the Super Bowl, but his season up to that game had been commendable. He wasn't called upon often, but he hit 20-for-28, including the game winner in overtime in the AFC championship game in Cleveland.

And after unsuccessful tries with two punters through 12 games, the Broncos finally solidified their kicking game when they signed Mike Horan in the 13th week. Horan isn't a long-distance specialist (he averaged 41.1 yards on 21 kicks), but he put eight kicks out of bounds inside the 20-yard line, and only two of his punts went for touchbacks.□



John Elway takes Denver to the air

BRONCOS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	Broncos	Opponent
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	319	291
Rushing	94	93
Passing	184	177
Penalty	41	21
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	92/222 41%	75/222 34%
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	2/5 40%	7/15 47%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5216	4947
Avg. Per Game	326.0	309.2
Total Plays	1042	1026
Avg. Per Play	5.0	4.8
NET YARDS RUSHING	1678	1651
Avg. Per Game	104.9	103.2
Total Rushes	455	432
NET YARDS PASSING	3538	3296
Avg. Per Game	221.1	206.0
Tackled/Yards Lost	38/273	49/459
Gross Yards	3811	3755
Attempts/Completions	549/306	545/301
Pct. of Completions	56%	55%
Had Intercepted	16	18
PUNTS/AVERAGE	86/39.3	86/42.9
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.0	34.2
PENALTIES/YARDS	104/910	126/1029
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	24/13	32/18
TOUCHDOWNS	45	36
Rushing	17	13
Passing	22	21
Returns	6	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
BRONCOS	69	131	89	89	0	378
Opp. Total	58	92	61	116	0	327

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
Karlis	0-0	3-4	8-8	8-14	1-2	20-28

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Winder	240	789	3.3	31	9
Willhite	85	365	4.3	42	5
Elway	52	257	4.9	24	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Willhite	64	529	8.3	34	3
Watson	45	699	15.5	46	3
M. Jackson	38	738	19.4	53	1
Johnson	31	363	11.7	34t	2
Winder	26	171	6.6	20t	5

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Harden	6	179	29.8	52	2
Wright	3	56	18.7	56	0
Lilly	3	22	7.3	15	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
Weil	34	1344	39.5	3	5	55	0
Norman	30	1168	38.9	4	2	57	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Willhite	42	8	468	11.1	70t	1
Johnson	3	0	36	12.0	19	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Bell	23	531	23.1	42	0
Lang	21	480	22.9	42	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
Elway	504	280	3485	.556	6.91	19	.038	13	.026	53	32/233	79/0
Kubiak	38	23	249	.605	6.55	1	.026	3	.079	26	3/23	55/5

BRONCOS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Rickey **NATTIEL** *WR-PR*	5-9, 180	**Florida**	'86 first team All-SEC...led team with 46 recpts., for 556 yds. (13.2 avg.) & 3 TD's.
3	Micheal **BROOKS** *OLB*	6-1, 235	**LSU**	'85 first team All-American...led team with 75 t[illegible] r 61 yds. in losses & in sacks with 8...'86 suffered a serious knee injury in th[illegible] ed rest of the year.
4	Marc **MUNFORD** *OLB*	6-2, 231	**Nebraska**	'86 first team All-Big 8...90 tackles (40 solos), [illegible] 3 yds. with 4 sacks...1 fmb. cau. & fmb. rec., 4 passes deflected & 2 others int'ed.
6	Warren **MARSHALL** *FB*	6-0, 216	**James Madison**	'86 led team & finished seventh in the country in rushing with 1284 yds. on 223 carries (5.8 avg.) & 9 TD's, an avg. of 116.7 yds. per game.
7	Wibur **STROZIER** *OG-T*	6-4, 264	**Georgia**	'86 first team All-SEC, also earning All-American honors by the Football News.
8	Dan **MORGAN** *OG*	6-6, 285	**Penn St.**	'86 All-East selection, also earning All-American Hon. Men...received a 94% blocking grade, highest among the team's linemen.
9	Bruce **PLUMMER** *CB*	6-1, 197	**Mississippi St.**	'86 second team All-SEC...67 tackles (45 solos), 2 fmb. rec., 7 pass deflections...3 in'ts.
10	Rafe **WILKINSON** *LB*	6-2, 235	**Richmond**	'86 second team All-ECAC & Yankee Conf., 80 tackles (49 solos), 3 sacks, 4 pass deflections.
11	Steve **ROBERTS** *DE*	6-5, 239	**Washington**	'86...82 tackles (30 solos), 8 sacks, 2 fmb. cau., 3 fmb. rec.
11	Tommy **NEAL** *RB*	5-10, 210	**Maryland**	'86 351 yds. on 78 attps. (4.5 avg.) & 8 TD's...added 46 yds. on 4 recpts.
12	Tyrone **BRAXTON** *DB*	5-11, 174	**No. Dakota St**	'86...38 tackles (10 solos), 4 int's, 3 deflections, 2 fmb. rec.

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

SEAHAWKS AIM TO PICK UP WHERE THEY LEFT OFF

BY GLENN DROSENDAHL

Chuck Knox has taken nine teams to the playoffs during his 14 years as an NFL head coach. His current Seattle Seahawks squad has the look of No. 10, and maybe something special.

The Seahawks were the league's hottest team during the final month of the 1986 season. They were the last team to beat the eventual Super Bowl champion New York Giants (17-12 on Oct. 19) and the only team to beat both Super Bowl squads. They finished the season with a resounding spike, a 41-16 rout of AFC champion Denver.

It was a hollow victory. Even though the Seahawks won their last five games, outscoring opponents 167-74, they failed to make the playoffs. Their postseason chances died in midseason, during a four-game losing streak that doomed them to a 10-6 record.

The trick for them now is to pick up where they left off, and the key to that seems to be their offense, particularly quarterback Dave Krieg.

The Seahawks slumped and soared last year with Krieg, an eighth-year pro from a tiny school that no longer exists (Milton College). Knox benched him in favor of untested Gale Gilbert for two starts (both losses) at midseason, then played a hunch and brought Krieg back. The results were astounding.

A less-than-franchise player, Krieg performed like a Marino or an Elway. Actually, he was better than that. During the final four games (romps over Dallas, the Los Angeles Raiders, San Diego and Denver), Krieg completed 69.9 percent of his passes. He threw 10 touchdown passes and only one interception. His passing rating was 138.2.

That streak, during which Seattle averaged nearly 36 points a game, may have gotten Krieg over the hump of no-confidence shown him by Seattle's coaches since Knox arrived in 1983.

"I can't say enough about Dave Krieg. He responded to the challenge," Knox said.

Added offensive coordinator Steve Moore: "When he plays as he did, you can't do anything but believe in him."

Krieg has had streaks before. In fact, after earning a Pro Bowl berth for leading the Seahawks to a 12-4 record in 1984, he alternated between good and bad every two weeks in 1985 and the Seahawks won two and lost two all the way to a disappointing 8-8 mark.

What assurance do Seahawks fans have that Krieg's hot finish in '86 wasn't just another flash before another fall?

"My feeling," said Moore, "is that he's at a spot right now where he said, Aha! This is what it is, and he can lock in on it."

Krieg had a lot of help last season. Running back Curt Warner won the AFC rushing championship; wide receiver Steve Largent set three NFL records and moved within an average (for him) season of becoming the league's all-time leading pass-catcher; and the offensive line was surprisingly effective.

Warner, running without pain for the first time since a season-ending knee injury in the 1984 opener, seemed to get better each week.

One of the league's sharpest cutback artists, he finished with 192 yards rushing against Denver. That gave him seven 100-yard games for the year and a team record total of 1,481 yards, breaking the mark of 1,449 he set as a rookie in 1983.

The buddy system was alive and thriving in the Seahawks backfield where rookie fullback John L. Williams proved to be the perfect complement to Warner. The 230-pounder from Florida was a crunching lead blocker and also a legitimate threat as a change-up runner and receiver.

The offensive line, including tight ends Mike Tice and Gordon Hudson, was the scene of Seattle's major success story in 1986.

By most measures, the Seahawk line had been a bust in 1985. Seattle's backs rushed for only 102.8 yards a game and 3.6 a carry, and the quarterbacks were sacked 53 times. Making the prospects for 1986 seem worse, Knox ignored the line in the draft and both incumbent starting tackles (Ron Essink and Bob Cryder) missed the entire preseason.

Out of such gloom, a big-league blocking unit was born.

Ron Mattes, a 306-pounder with narrow hips, had spent the previous year

on injured reserve after being drafted in the seventh round as a defensive tackle. He became a fixture at left tackle, improving every game.

Mike Wilson, a 280-pound veteran acquired in August from Cincinnati, secured the right tackle spot the day he arrived and was a rock of dependability.

Guards Bryan Millard (6-5, 284) and Edwin Bailey (6-4, 276) took to Seattle's new combination blocking schemes like trailhands happy to join in a barroom brawl. They already are good and, being young, should get better.

The upshot of all this is that Seattle, despite losing center and top lineman Blair Bush for most of the season, finished fifth in the NFL in rushing (143.8 yards a game, 4.5 a carry) and allowed only 39 sacks.

With Bush returning from knee surgery, Essink over longterm elbow problems and 290-pound talents such as guard Alvin Powell, tackle Rory Graves and center Stan Eisenhooth pushing for jobs, Seattle's line looks ready to do some major damage this season.

"I think our offensive line is in great shape," Knox said.

Seattle's major question on offense is at wide receiver, where a replacement must be found for Byron Franklin. He had moved into the starting lineup ahead of Daryl Turner last season, but was lost with a knee injury that figures to sideline him most of this year.

Turner continues to be one of the league's top touchdown threats (30 in three years, an average of one every three catches) but is too unreliable to be much help on third downs. His forte is striding past defenders while Largent and Paul Skansi run precise routes and make big plays.

Largent is simply a marvel. He needs 56 catches and 866 yards this season to move ahead of Charlie Joiner and become the NFL's all-time leader in both categories. Joiner played for 18 NFL seasons. This will be Largent's 12th.

Deceptively quick and disciplined beyond compare, Largent will turn 33 this September but shows no signs of senility. During 1986 he caught 70 passes for 1,070 yards and nine touchdowns, and set NFL records for most consecutive games with at least one catch (139 and counting), most 1,000-yard seasons (eight) and most 50-catch seasons (nine).

Defense is another matter for the Seahawks.

Although defensive coordinator Tom Catlin's troops led the AFC in scoring defense, allowing an average of 18.3 points per game, they had problems. They finished 22nd in total yards allowed and 23rd in passing yards allowed.

What happened to the pass rush? In 1985, the Seahawks were among the league leaders in sacks with a team-record 61. Last year they managed 47.

"We've got to get more pressure on the quarterback," said Knox, who would be willing to get it in the form of either a defensive lineman or linebacker.

In a sense, all the Seahawks have some showing to do. They have to show that their big finish last year was no fluke, and that they aren't about to repeat the flop of '85...

Injuries played a part in Seattle's defensive struggles. Linemen Jeff Bryant and Randy Edwards were hurt much of the year. Bryant, who missed the first games of his five-year career, dropped from 14-1/2 sacks in '84 and 8-1/2 in '85 to four last season. Edwards, who played hurt all season, dropped from 10-1/2 sacks to four. And nose tackle Joe Nash, slowed by a preseason ankle injury that cost him his job for part of the year, dropped from nine sacks to five.

Strong safety Kenny Easley, the NFL Defensive Player of the Year in 1984, the last season he was healthy, missed six games. Curiously, Seattle won all six.

Easley, returning after his second ankle surgery in two years, poses some questions for Catlin to ponder. Opponents were able to take Easley out of the action last season by splitting a tight end and covering that side of the line with a second tight end. As a consequence, Easley was more an observer than a factor even when he was relatively healthy.

Seattle's coaches must find a way to get him more involved.

Eugene Robinson won the starting free safety job last year, one season after being signed as a free agent rookie from Colgate. He made some rookie-type mistakes, but also showed speed and a bright future.

Cornerbacks Dave Brown and Terry Taylor had some nightmarish games as they tried to cover without benefit of much pass rush, but generally were at least adequate. Brown, however, is the league's oldest starting cornerback. At 34, he faces a challenge from Patrick Hunter, last year's third-round draft pick.

Defensive bright spots included end Jacob Green, who had 12 sacks, and inside linebacker Fredd Young, whose 121 tackles led the team by 22. Both were picked for the Pro Bowl.

The linebacking corps, competent as it seems, is due for an upgrade. Last year was Seattle's second straight without adding a linebacker.

Young, an instinctive player and violent tackler, has made the Pro Bowl each of his three NFL seasons, including the first two as a special teams player. Still learning his position, he is a little less disciplined than Catlin would like but is able to make up for mistakes with his exceptional quickness.

The other starting linebackers—Bruce Scholtz and Greg Gaines on the outside, and 10th-year veteran Keith Butler on the inside—played hurt most of last year.

Special teams have been the pride of the Seahawks under assistant coach Rusty Tillman. Other teams gained on Seattle last year, although Tillman's were still pretty special.

In 1986 they blocked four punts and an extra point. They ranked second in kickoff coverage. They also had the AFC's

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
2	**Gamache**, Vince	P	5-11	174	2	Cal State-Fullerton
7	**Gilbert**, Gale	QB	6-3	215	3	California
8	**Salisbury**, Sean	QB	6-5	215	2	Southern California
9	**Johnson**, Norm	K	6-2	195	6	UCLA
17	**Krieg**, Dave	QB	6-1	188	8	Milton, Wis.
20	**Taylor**, Terry	CB	5-11	188	4	Southern Illinois
21	**Moyer**, Paul	FS	6-1	205	5	Arizona State
22	**Brown**, Dave	CB	6-2	195	13	Michigan
23	**Hunter**, Patrick	CB	5-10	187	2	Nevada-Reno
26	**Justin**, Kerry	DB	5-11	175	7	Oregon State
27	**Johnson**, Greggory	S	6-1	197	5	Oklahoma State
28	**Warner**, Curt	RB	5-11	205	4	Penn State
30	**Edmonds**, Bobby Joe	RB	5-11	190	2	Arkansas
32	**Williams**, John L.	FB	5-11	225	2	Florida
37	**Lane**, Eric	FB	6-0	195	7	Brigham Young
41	**Robinson**, Eugene	FS	6-0	180	3	Colgate
43	**Morris**, Randall	RB	6-0	200	4	Tennessee
45	**Easley**, Ken	SS	6-3	206	7	UCLA
47	**Anderson**, Eddie	SS	6-1	200	2	Fort Valley State
50	**Young**, Fredd	ILB	6-1	233	4	New Mexico State
51	**Merriman**, Sam	ILB	6-3	227	5	Idaho
52	**Grant**, Will	C	6-3	268	10	Kentucky
53	**Butler**, Keith	ILB	6-4	238	10	Memphis State
54	**Kaiser**, John	OLB	6-3	221	4	Arizona
55	**Jackson**, Michael	OLB	6-1	220	9	Washington
56	**Gaines**, Greg	OLB	6-3	220	6	Tennessee
58	**Scholtz**, Bruce	OLB	6-6	240	6	Texas
59	**Bush**, Blair	C	6-3	272	10	Washington
61	**Mitz**, Alonzo	DE	6-3	273	2	Florida
62	**Kauahi**, Kani	C	6-2	260	6	Hawaii
63	**Kinlaw**, Reggie	NT	6-2	245	8	Oklahoma
64	**Essink**, Ron	T	6-6	282	8	Grand Valley State
65	**Bailey**, Edwin	G	6-4	276	7	South Carolina State
66	**Eisenhooth**, Stan	C	6-5	291	1	Towson State
68	**Edwards**, Randy	DE	6-4	270	4	Alabama
69	**Graves**, Rory	T	6-6	290	1	Ohio State
70	**Mattes**, Ron	T	6-6	306	2	Virginia
71	**Millard**, Bryan	G	6-5	282	4	Texas
72	**Nash**, Joe	NT	6-3	250	6	Boston College
73	**Powell**, Alvin	G	6-5	296	1	Winston-Salem State
74	**Singer**, Curt	T	6-5	270	2	Tennessee
75	**Wilson**, Mike	T	6-5	271	10	Georgia
76	**Borchardt**, Jon	G	6-5	265	9	Montana State
77	**Bryant**, Jeff	DE	6-5	270	6	Clemson
79	**Green**, Jacob	DE	6-3	255	8	Texas A&M
80	**Largent**, Steve	WR	5-11	184	12	Tulsa
81	**Turner**, Daryl	WR	6-3	198	4	Michigan State
82	**Skansi**, Paul	WR	5-11	190	5	Washington
83	**Butler**, Raymond	WR	6-3	207	8	Southern California
84	**Greene**, Danny	WR	5-11	197	2	Washington
85	**Hudson**, Gordon	TE	6-4	241	2	Brigham Young
86	**Tice**, Mike	TE	6-7	250	7	Maryland
87	**Davis**, Tony	TE	6-5	239	1	Missouri
88	**Franklin**, Byron	WR	6-1	178	6	Auburn
89	**Walker**, Byron	WR	6-4	188	5	Citadel
97	**Feasel**, Grant	C	6-7	280	3	Abilene Christian

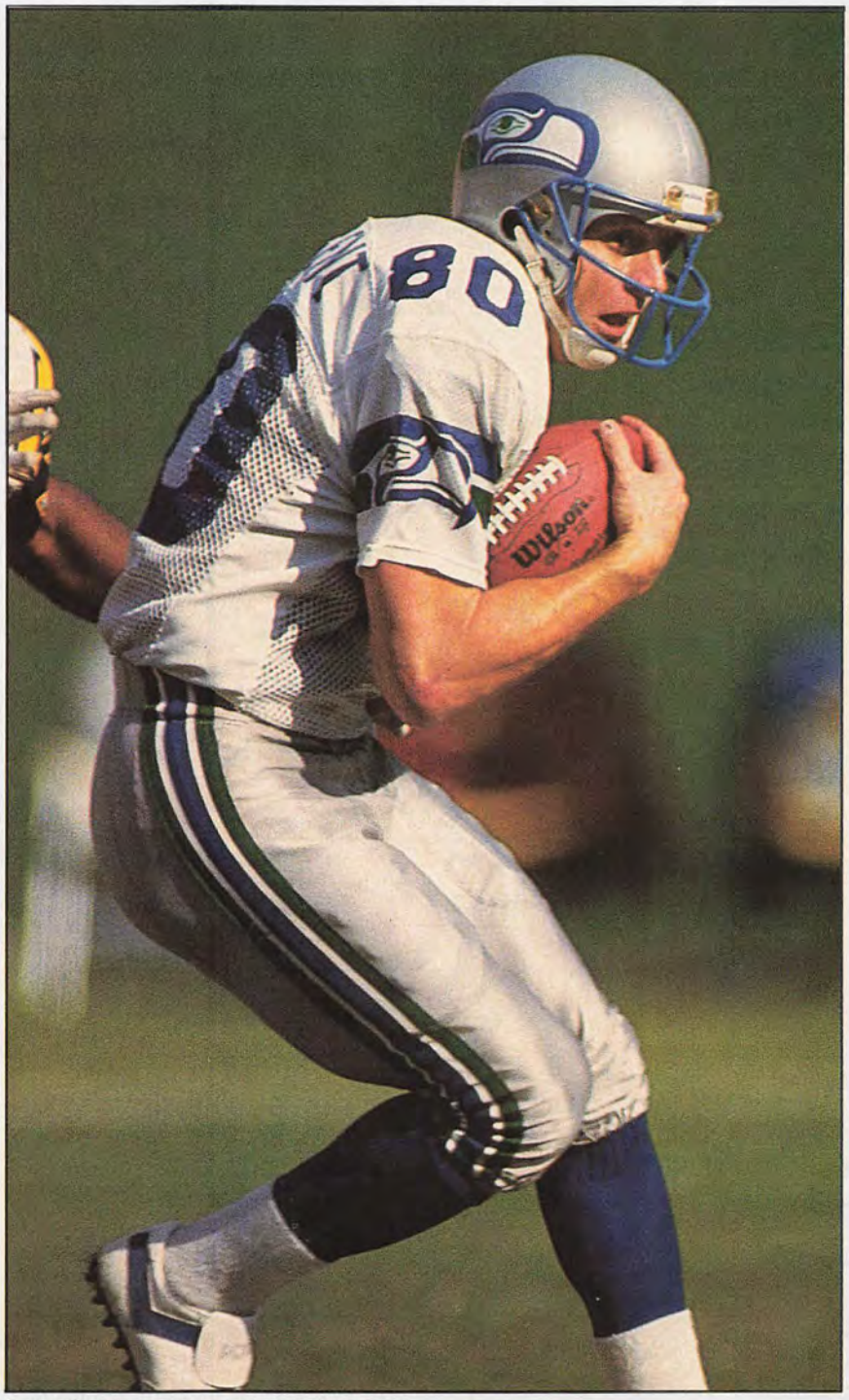
Seahawks' Jacob Green challenges opponents

second leading scorer in kicker Norm Johnson and the Pro Bowl kick returner in rookie Bobby Joe Edmonds. Johnson got back in his 1984 Pro Bowl groove after a weak 1985 season and ended up with the conference's four longest field goals last year. Edmonds set team records as a punt returner and probably earned himself a longer look on offense this year.

A less effective area was punt coverage, where the Seahawks slipped to 17th. First-year punter Vince Gamache was a disappointment (33.0 net average) and can expect a show-me attitude from coaches in preseason.

In a sense, all the Seahawks have some showing to do. They have to show that their big finish last year was no fluke, and that they aren't about to repeat the flop of '85 when they were coming off a 12-win season, were picked by many to reach the Super Bowl and inexplicably slumped.

That team was young. This one is older and should be smarter—smart enough to take advantage of an easier schedule than last year's and to realize that it better make its title move now, before its time has past.□



Seattle's Steve Largent makes sure he doesn't lose control

SEAHAWKS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	SEAHAWKS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	291	310
Rushing	123	93
Passing	158	192
Penalty	10	25
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	96/221 43.4%	84/225 37.3%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	0/6 0%	6/18 33.3%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5409	5341
Avg. Per Game	338.1	333.8
Total Plays	1005	1053
Avg. Per Play	5.4	5.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	2300	1759
Avg. Per Game	143.8	109.9
Total Rushes	513	471
NET YARDS PASSING	3109	3582
Avg. Per Game	194.3	223.9
Tackled/Yards Lost	39/315	47/306
Gross Yards	3424	3888
Attempts/Completions	453/268	535/301
Pct. of Completions	59.2	56.3
Had Intercepted	14	22
PUNTS/AVERAGE	79/38.6	81/40.4
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.0	33.7
PENALTIES/YARDS	98/813	81/652
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	29/13	26/14
TOUCHDOWNS	43	34
Rushing	15	12
Passing	24	20
Returns	4	2

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
SEAHAWKS	69	96	80	121	0	366
Opp. Total	60	103	52	78	0	293

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Johnson	0-0	6-8	8-9	3-11	5-7	22-35

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Warner	319	1481	4.6	60	13
Williams	129	538	4.2	36	0
Morris	19	149	7.8	49	1

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Largent	70	1070	15.3	38	9
Warner	41	342	8.3	26	0
Franklin	33	547	16.6	49	2
Williams	33	219	6.6	23	0
Skansi	22	271	12.3	30	0

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Brown	5	58	11.6	24	1
Justin	4	29	7.3	18	0
Robinson	3	39	13.0	25	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Gamache	79	3048	38.6	7	10	55	0

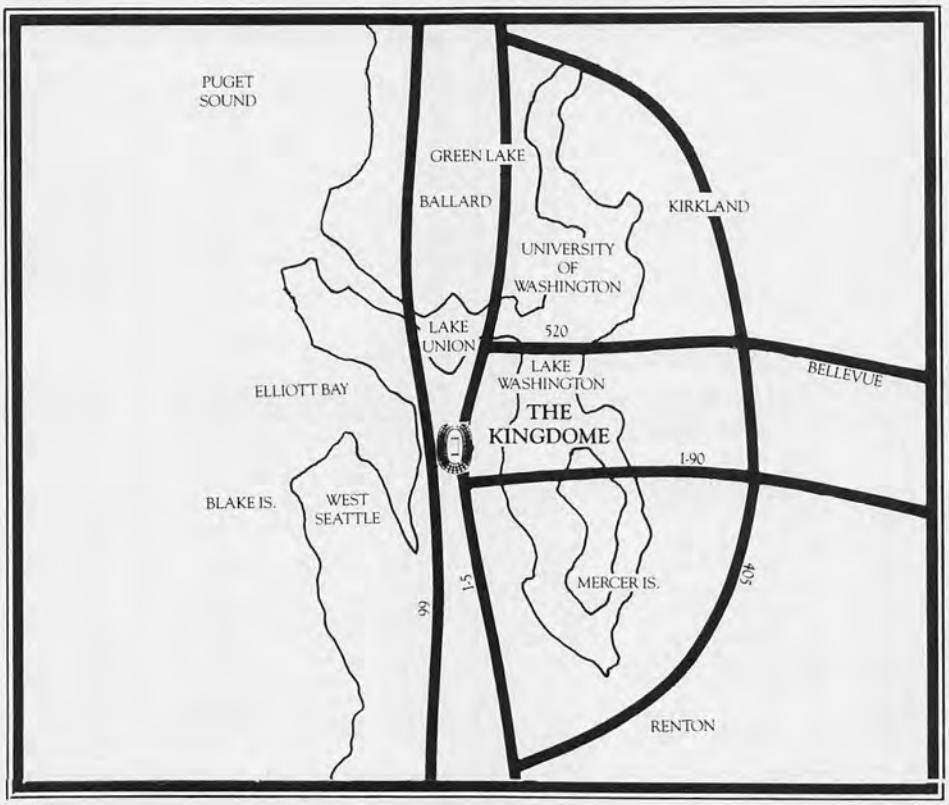
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Edmonds	34	14	419	12.3	75	1
Skansi	5	0	38	7.6	14	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Edmonds	34	764	22.5	46	0
Morris	23	465	20.2	38	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Krieg	375	225	2921	60.0	7.79	21	5.6	11	2.9	72	35/281	91.0
Gilbert	76	42	485	55.3	6.38	3	3.9	3	3.9	38	4/34	71.4

SEAHAWKS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Tony **WOODS** *DE-OLB*	6-4, 244	**Pittsburgh**	'86 first team All-American by FWA, The Sporting News, UPI... 109 tackles (57 solos), 13 sacks & 21 tackles for 106 yds. in losses.
2	Dave **WYMAN** *ILB*	6-2, 229	**Stanford**	'86 All-Pac 10 & All-American...169 tackles (52 solos), 2.5 sacks & 6 tackles for 23 yds. in losses, 1 fmb. rec, 2 deflected passes, 3 int's.
4	Mark **MOORE** *FS*	6-0, 194	**Oklahoma St.**	'86 All-Big 8...All-American...96 tackles (61 solos), 2 fmb. rec, 3 pass deflections, 2 int's.
5A	Tommie **AGEE** *FB*	5-11, 211	**Auburn**	Excellent blocker led way for Bo Jackson & Brent Fullwood...special teams captain...'86 fourth on team with 271 yds. rushing on 66 carries with a TD, 18 recpts. for 200 yds.
5B	Ruben **RODRIGUEZ** *P*	6-2, 222	**Arizona**	'86 punted 48 times for 1,889 yds. & a 39.4 avg. with a long of 58 yds.
7A	Roland **BARBAY** *DE*	6-3, 266	**LSU**	Second team All-SEC...'86 52 tackles (36 solos), 4 sacks, 5 tackles for 31 yds. in losses, deflected 2 passes & 2 fmb. cau.
7B	Derek **TENNEL** *TE*	6-5, 236	**UCLA**	Started career as a fullback..'86 caught 15 passes for 152 yds. (10.1 avg.) & 3 TD's.
8	Sammy **GARZA** *QB*	6-1, 190	**Texas-El Paso**	'86 comp. 258 of 410 passes for 3,140 yds., 21 TD's, 19 int's.
9	M.L. **JOHNSON** *OLB*	6-3, 226	**Hawaii**	'86 first team All-WAC...70 tackles (47 solos)...3 sacks & 9 tackles for 30 yds. in losses...2 fmb. cau. & 3 fmb. rec, 2 deflected passes.
10	Louis **CLARK** *TE*	6-2, 220	**Mississippi St.**	'86 preseason All-SEC...24 catches, 378 yds., 3 TD's.
11	Darryl **OLIVER** *RB*	5-11, 194	**Miami**	'86 backup at FB position...carried 31 times for 110 yds. & a TD...caught 9 passes for 50 yds.
12A	Wes **DOVE** *DE*	6-6, 265	**Syracuse**	'86...55 tackles (31 solos), 1.5 sacks.
12B	Tony **BURSE** *FB*	6-0, 225	**Tennessee St.**	'86 first team All-OVC for second straight year...114 yds. on 20 carries...led team with 27 catches for 266 yds.



1986 AFC RESULTS

BUFFALO BILLS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Buffalo 24,	NY Jets 28	H	79,951	L
Buffalo 33,	Cincinnati 36	A	52,714	L OT
Buffalo 17,	St. Louis 10	H	65,762	W
Buffalo 17,	Kansas City 20	H	67,555	L
Buffalo 13,	NY Jets 14	A	69,504	L
Buffalo 14,	Miami 27	A	49,467	L
Buffalo 24,	Indianapolis 13	H	50,050	W
Buffalo 3,	New England 23	H	77,808	L
Buffalo 28,	Tampa Bay 34	A	32,806	L
Buffalo 16,	Pittsburgh 12	H	72,000	W
Buffalo 24,	Miami 34	H	76,474	L
Buffalo 19,	New England 22	A	60,455	L
Buffalo 17,	Kansas City 14	A	31,492	W
Buffalo 17,	Cleveland 21	H	42,213	L
Buffalo 14,	Indianapolis 24	A	52,783	L
Buffalo 7,	Houston 16	A	31,409	L

CINCINNATI BENGALS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Cincinnati 14,	Kansas City 24	A	43,430	L
Cincinnati 36,	Buffalo 33	H	52,714	W OT
Cincinnati 30,	Cleveland 13	A	78,779	W
Cincinnati 7,	Chicago 44	H	55,146	L
Cincinnati 34,	Green Bay 28	A	51,230	W
Cincinnati 24,	Pittsburgh 22	H	54,283	W
Cincinnati 31,	Houston 28	H	53,844	W
Cincinnati 9,	Pittsburgh 30	A	50,815	L
Cincinnati 24,	Detroit 17	A	52,423	W
Cincinnati 28,	Houston 32	A	32,130	L
Cincinnati 34,	Seattle 7	H	54,410	W
Cincinnati 24,	Minnesota 20	H	53,003	W
Cincinnati 28,	Denver 34	A	58,705	L
Cincinnati 31,	New England 7	A	60,633	W
Cincinnati 3,	Cleveland 34	H	58,062	L
Cincinnati 52,	NY Jets 21	H	51,619	W

CLEVELAND BROWNS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Cleveland 31,	Chicago 41	A	66,030	L
Cleveland 23,	Houston 20	A	46,049	W
Cleveland 13,	Cincinnati 30	H	78,779	L
Cleveland 24,	Detroit 21	H	72,029	W
Cleveland 27,	Pittsburgh 24	A	57,327	W
Cleveland 20,	Kansas City 7	H	71,278	W
Cleveland 14,	Green Bay 17	H	76,438	L
Cleveland 23,	Minnesota 20	A	59,133	W
Cleveland 24,	Indianapolis 9	A	57,962	W
Cleveland 26,	Miami 16	H	77,949	W
Cleveland 14,	LA Raiders 27	A	65,461	L
Cleveland 37,	Pittsburgh 31	H	76,452	W OT
Cleveland 13,	Houston 10	H	62,309	W OT
Cleveland 21,	Buffalo 17	A	42,213	W
Cleveland 34,	Cincinnati 3	A	58,062	W
Cleveland 47,	San Diego 17	H	68,505	W

DENVER BRONCOS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Denver 38,	LA Raiders 36	H	75,695	W
Denver 21,	Pittsburgh 10	A	57,305	W
Denver 33,	Philadelphia 7	A	63,839	W
Denver 27,	New England 20	H	75,804	W
Denver 29,	Dallas 14	H	76,082	W
Denver 31,	San Diego 14	A	60,368	W
Denver 10,	NY Jets 22	A	73,759	L
Denver 20,	Seattle 13	H	76,089	W
Denver 21,	LA Raiders 10	A	90,153	W
Denver 3,	San Diego 9	H	75,012	L
Denver 38,	Kansas City 17	H	75,745	W
Denver 16,	NY Giants 19	A	75,116	L
Denver 34,	Cincinnati 28	H	58,705	W
Denver 10,	Kansas City 37	A	47,019	L
Denver 31,	Washington 30	H	75,905	W
Denver 16,	Seattle 41	A	63,697	L

HOUSTON OILERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Houston 31,	Green Bay 3	A	54,065	W
Houston 20,	Cleveland 23	H	46,049	L
Houston 13,	Kansas City 27	A	43,699	L
Houston 16,	Pittsburgh 22	H	42,001	L OT
Houston 13,	Detroit 24	A	41,960	L
Houston 7,	Chicago 20	H	46,026	L
Houston 28,	Cincinnati 31	A	53,844	L
Houston 17,	LA Raiders 28	H	41,641	L
Houston 7,	Miami 28	A	43,804	L
Houston 32,	Cincinnati 28	H	32,130	W
Houston 10,	Pittsburgh 21	A	49,724	L
Houston 31,	Indianapolis 17	H	31,792	W
Houston 10,	Cleveland 13	A	62,309	L OT
Houston 0,	San Diego 27	A	40,103	L
Houston 23,	Minnesota 10	H	32,738	W
Houston 16,	Buffalo 7	H	31,409	W

INDIANAPOLIS COLTS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Indianapolis 3,	New England 33	A	55,208	L
Indianapolis 10,	Miami 30	A	51,848	L
Indianapolis 7,	LA Rams 24	H	59,012	L
Indianapolis 7,	NY Jets 26	H	56,075	L
Indianapolis 14,	SF 49ers 35	A	57,252	L
Indianapolis 14,	New Orleans 17	H	53,512	L
Indianapolis 13,	Buffalo 24	A	50,050	L
Indianapolis 13,	Miami 17	H	58,350	L
Indianapolis 9,	Cleveland 24	H	57,962	L
Indianapolis 21,	New England 30	H	56,890	L
Indianapolis 16,	NY Jets 31	A	65,149	L
Indianapolis 17,	Houston 31	A	31,792	L
Indianapolis 3,	San Diego 17	H	47,950	L
Indianapolis 28,	Atlanta 23	A	30,397	W
Indianapolis 24,	Buffalo 14	H	52,783	W
Indianapolis 30,	LA Raiders 24	A	41,349	W

KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Kansas City 24,	Cincinnati 13	H	43,430	W
Kansas City 17,	Seattle 23	A	64,947	L
Kansas City 27,	Houston 13	H	43,699	W
Kansas City 20,	Buffalo 17	A	67,555	W
Kansas City 17,	LA Raiders 24	H	74,430	L
Kansas City 7,	Cleveland 20	A	72,304	L
Kansas City 42,	San Diego 41	H	55,767	W
Kansas City 27,	Tampa Bay 20	H	36,230	W
Kansas City 24,	San Diego 23	A	44,518	W
Kansas City 27,	Seattle 7	H	53,268	W
Kansas City 17,	Denver 38	A	75,745	L
Kansas City 14,	St. Louis 23	A	29,680	L
Kansas City 14,	Buffalo 17	H	31,492	L
Kansas City 37,	Denver 10	H	47,019	W
Kansas City 20,	LA Raiders 17	A	68,771	W
Kansas City 24,	Pittsburgh 19	A	47,150	W

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

LA Raiders 36,	Denver 38	A	75,898	L
LA Raiders 6,	Washington 10	A	55,622	L
LA Raiders 9,	NY Giants 14	H	73,318	L
LA Raiders 17,	San Diego 13	H	67,147	W
LA Raiders 24,	Kansas City 17	A	78,671	W
LA Raiders 14,	Seattle 10	H	73,055	W
LA Raiders 30,	Miami 28	A	75,284	W
LA Raiders 28,	Houston 17	A	46,459	W
LA Raiders 10,	Denver 21	H	92,496	L
LA Raiders 17,	Dallas 13	A	63,147	W
LA Raiders 27,	Cleveland 14	H	70,030	W
LA Raiders 37,	San Diego 31	A	60,692	W OT
LA Raiders 27,	Philadelphia 33	H	60,117	L OT
LA Raiders 0,	Seattle 37	A	64,944	L
LA Raiders 17,	Kansas City 20	H	68,771	L
LA Raiders 24,	Indianapolis 30	H	55,147	L

MIAMI DOLPHINS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Miami 28,	San Diego 50	A	57,726	L
Miami 30,	Indianapolis 10	H	51,848	W
Miami 45,	NY Jets 51	A	71,025	L OT
Miami 16,	SF 49ers 31	H	70,264	L
Miami 7,	New England 34	A	60,689	L
Miami 27,	Buffalo 14	H	49,467	W
Miami 28,	LA Raiders 30	H	53,421	L
Miami 17,	Indianapolis 13	A	58,350	W
Miami 28,	Houston 7	H	43,804	W
Miami 16,	Cleveland 26	A	77,949	L
Miami 34,	Buffalo 24	A	76,474	W
Miami 45,	NY Jets 3	H	70,206	W
Miami 14,	Atlanta 20	H	53,762	L
Miami 31,	New Orleans 27	A	64,761	W
Miami 37,	LA Rams 31	A	62,629	W OT
Miami 27,	New England 34	H	74,516	L

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

New England 33,	Indianapolis 3	H	55,208	W
New England 20,	NY Jets 6	A	72,422	W
New England 31,	Seattle 38	H	58,977	L
New England 20,	Denver 27	A	75,804	L
New England 34,	Miami 7	H	60,689	W
New England 24,	NY Jets 31	H	60,342	L
New England 34,	Pittsburgh 0	A	54,743	W
New England 23,	Buffalo 3	A	77,808	W
New England 25,	Atlanta 17	H	60,597	W
New England 30,	Indianapolis 21	A	56,890	W
New England 30,	LA Rams 28	A	64,339	W
New England 22,	Buffalo 19	H	60,455	W
New England 21,	New Orleans 20	A	58,259	W
New England 7,	Cincinnati 31	H	60,633	L
New England 24,	SF 49ers 29	H	60,787	L
New England 34,	Miami 27	A	74,516	W

NEW YORK JETS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

New York 28,	Buffalo 24	A	79,951	W
New York 6,	New England 20	H	72,422	L
New York 51,	Miami 45	H	71,025	W OT
New York 26,	Indianapolis 7	A	56,075	W
New York 14,	Buffalo 13	H	69,504	W
New York 31,	New England 24	A	60,342	W
New York 22,	Denver 10	H	73,759	W
New York 28,	New Orleans 23	H	44,246	W
New York 38,	Seattle 7	A	62,497	W
New York 28,	Atlanta 14	A	53,476	W
New York 31,	Indianapolis 16	H	65,149	W
New York 3,	Miami 45	A	70,206	L
New York 3,	LA Rams 17	H	70,539	L
New York 10,	SF 49ers 24	A	58,091	L
New York 24,	Pittsburgh 45	H	58,044	L
New York 21,	Cincinnati 52	A	51,619	L

PITTSBURGH STEELERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Pittsburgh 0,	Seattle 30	A	61,461	L
Pittsburgh 10,	Denver 21	H	57,305	L
Pittsburgh 7,	Minnesota 31	A	56,795	L
Pittsburgh 22,	Houston 16	A	42,001	W ot
Pittsburgh 24,	Cleveland 27	H	57,327	L
Pittsburgh 22,	Cincinnati 24	A	54,283	L
Pittsburgh 0,	New England 34	H	54,743	L
Pittsburgh 30,	Cincinnati 9	H	50,815	W
Pittsburgh 27,	Green Bay 3	H	52,831	W
Pittsburgh 12,	Buffalo 16	A	72,000	L
Pittsburgh 21,	Houston 10	H	49,724	W
Pittsburgh 31,	Cleveland 37	A	76,452	L ot
Pittsburgh 10,	Chicago 13	A	61,425	L ot
Pittsburgh 27,	Detroit 17	H	45,042	W
Pittsburgh 45,	NY Jets 24	A	58,044	W
Pittsburgh 19,	Kansas City 24	H	47,150	L

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

San Diego 50,	Miami 28	H	57,726	W
San Diego 7,	NY Giants 20	A	74,921	L
San Diego 27,	Washington 30	H	57,853	L
San Diego 13,	LA Raiders 17	A	63,153	L
San Diego 7,	Seattle 33	A	63,207	L
San Diego 14,	Denver 31	H	55,662	L
San Diego 41,	Kansas City 42	A	55,767	L
San Diego 7,	Philadelphia 23	A	41,469	L
San Diego 23,	Kansas City 24	H	44,518	L
San Diego 9,	Denver 3	A	75,012	W
San Diego 21,	Dallas 24	H	55,622	L
San Diego 31,	LA Raiders 37	H	56,031	L OT
San Diego 17,	Indianapolis 3	A	47,950	W
San Diego 27,	Houston 0	H	40,103	W
San Diego 24,	Seattle 34	H	47,096	L
San Diego 17,	Cleveland 47	A	68,505	L

SEATTLE SEAHAWKS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Seattle 30,	Pittsburgh 0	H	61,461	W
Seattle 23,	Kansas City 17	H	61,068	W
Seattle 38,	New England 31	A	58,977	W
Seattle 14,	Washington 19	A	54,157	L
Seattle 33,	San Diego 7	H	63,207	W
Seattle 10,	LA Raiders 14	A	70,635	L
Seattle 17,	NY Giants 12	H	62,282	W
Seattle 13,	Denver 20	A	76,089	L
Seattle 7,	NY Jets 38	H	62,497	L
Seattle 7,	Kansas City 27	A	53,268	L
Seattle 7,	Cincinnati 34	A	54,410	L
Seattle 24,	Philadelphia 20	H	55,786	W
Seattle 31,	Dallas 14	A	58,020	W
Seattle 37,	LA Raiders 0	H	62,923	W
Seattle 34,	San Diego 24	A	47,096	W
Seattle 41,	Denver 16	H	63,697	W

1986 NFC RESULTS

ATLANTA FALCONS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Atlanta 31,	New Orleans 10	A	67,950	W
Atlanta 33,	St. Louis 13	H	46,463	W
Atlanta 37,	Dallas 35	A	62,880	W
Atlanta 23,	Tampa Bay 20	A	38,950	W OT
Atlanta 0,	Phil Eagles 16	H	57,104	L
Atlanta 26,	LA Rams 14	H	51,662	W
Atlanta 10,	SF 49ers 10	H	55,306	T OT
Atlanta 7,	LA Rams 14	A	56,993	L
Atlanta 17,	New England 25	A	60,597	L
Atlanta 14,	NY Jets 28	H	53,476	L
Atlanta 10,	Chicago 13	H	55,520	L
Atlanta 0,	SF 49ers 20	A	58,747	L
Atlanta 20,	Miami 14	A	53,762	W
Atlanta 23,	Ind. Colts 28	H	30,397	L
Atlanta 9,	New Orleans 14	H	39,994	L
Atlanta 20,	Detroit 6	A	35,255	W

CHICAGO BEARS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Chicago 41,	Cleveland 31	H	66,030	W
Chicago 13,	Philadelphia 10	H	65,130	W OT
Chicago 22,	Green Bay 12	A	55,527	W
Chicago 44,	Cincinnati 7	A	55,146	W
Chicago 23,	Minnesota 0	H	63,921	W
Chicago 20,	Houston 7	A	46,026	W
Chicago 7,	Minnesota 23	A	62,851	L
Chicago 13,	Detroit 7	H	62,064	W
Chicago 17,	LA Rams 20	H	64,877	L
Chicago 23,	Tampa Bay 3	H	70,097	W
Chicago 13,	Atlanta 10	A	55,520	W
Chicago 12,	Green Bay 10	H	59,291	W
Chicago 13,	Pittsburgh 10	H	61,425	W OT
Chicago 48,	Tampa Bay 14	H	52,746	W
Chicago 16,	Detroit 13	A	75,602	W
Chicago 24,	Dallas 10	A	57,256	W

DALLAS COWBOYS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Dallas 31,	NY Giants 28	H	59,804	W
Dallas 31,	Detroit 7	A	73,812	W
Dallas 35,	Atlanta 37	H	62,880	L
Dallas 31,	St. Louis 7	A	49,077	W
Dallas 14,	Denver 29	A	76,082	L
Dallas 30,	Washington 6	H	63,264	W
Dallas 17,	Philadelphia 14	A	68,572	W
Dallas 37,	St. Louis 6	H	60,756	W
Dallas 14,	NY Giants 17	A	74,871	L
Dallas 13,	LA Raiders 17	H	61,706	L
Dallas 24,	San Diego 21	A	55,622	W
Dallas 14,	Washington 41	A	55,642	L
Dallas 14,	Seattle 31	H	58,023	L
Dallas 10,	LA Rams 29	A	64,949	L
Dallas 21,	Philadelphia 23	H	46,117	L
Dallas 10,	Chicago 24	H	57,256	L

DETROIT LIONS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Detroit 13,	Minnesota 10	A	54,851	W
Detroit 7,	Dallas 31	H	73,812	L
Detroit 20,	Tampa Bay 24	H	38,453	L
Detroit 21,	Cleveland 24	A	72,029	L
Detroit 24,	Houston 13	H	41,960	W
Detroit 21,	Green Bay 14	A	52,290	W
Detroit 10,	LA Rams 14	A	50,992	L
Detroit 7,	Chicago 13	A	62,064	L
Detroit 17,	Cincinnati 24	H	52,423	L
Detroit 10,	Minnesota 24	H	53,725	L
Detroit 13,	Philadelphia 11	A	54,568	W
Detroit 38,	Tampa Bay 17	A	30,029	W
Detroit 40,	Green Bay 44	H	61,199	L
Detroit 17,	Pittsburgh 27	A	45,042	L
Detroit 13,	Chicago 16	H	75,602	L
Detroit 6,	Atlanta 20	H	35,255	L

GREEN BAY PACKERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Green Bay 3,	Houston 31	H	54,065	L
Green Bay 10,	New Orleans 24	A	46,383	L
Green Bay 12,	Chicago 25	H	55,527	L
Green Bay 7,	Minnesota 42	A	60,478	L
Green Bay 28,	Cincinnati 34	A	51,230	L
Green Bay 14,	Detroit 21	H	52,290	L
Green Bay 17,	Cleveland 14	A	76,438	W
Green Bay 17,	SF 49ers 31	A	50,557	L
Green Bay 3,	Pittsburgh 27	A	52,831	L
Green Bay 7,	Washington 16	H	47,728	L
Green Bay 31,	Tampa Bay 7	A	48,217	W
Green Bay 10,	Chicago 12	A	59,291	L
Green Bay 44,	Detroit 40	A	61,199	W
Green Bay 6,	Minnesota 32	H	47,637	L
Green Bay 21,	Tampa Bay 7	A	30,099	W
Green Bay 24,	NY Giants 55	A	71,351	L

LA RAMS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

LA Rams 16,	St. Louis 10	A	40,347	W
LA Rams 16,	SF 49ers 13	H	65,195	W
LA Rams 24,	Indianapolis 7	A	59,012	W
LA Rams 20,	Philadelphia 34	A	65,646	L
LA Rams 26,	Tampa Bay 20	H	50,585	W OT
LA Rams 14,	Atlanta 26	A	51,662	L
LA Rams 14,	Detroit 10	H	50,992	W
LA Rams 14,	Atlanta 7	H	56,993	W
LA Rams 20,	Chicago 17	A	64,877	W
LA Rams 0,	New Orleans 6	A	62,352	L
LA Rams 28,	New England 30	H	64,339	L
LA Rams 26,	New Orleans 13	H	58,600	W
LA Rams 17,	NY Jets 3	A	70,539	W
LA Rams 29,	Dallas 10	H	64,949	W
LA Rams 31,	Miami 37	H	62,629	L OT
LA Rams 14,	San Francisco 24	A	60,366	L

MINNESOTA VIKINGS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Minnesota 10,	Detroit 13	H	54,851	L
Minnesota 23,	Tampa Bay 10	A	34,579	W
Minnesota 31,	Pittsburgh 7	H	56,795	W
Minnesota 42,	Green Bay 7	H	60,478	W
Minnesota 0,	Chicago 23	A	63,921	L
Minnesota 27,	SF 49ers 24	A	58,637	W OT
Minnesota 23,	Chicago 7	H	62,851	W
Minnesota 20,	Cleveland 23	H	59,133	L
Minnesota 38,	Washington 44	A	51,928	L OT
Minnesota 24,	Detroit 10	A	53,725	W
Minnesota 20,	NY Giants 22	H	62,003	L
Minnesota 20,	Cincinnati 24	A	53,003	L
Minnesota 45,	Tampa Bay 13	H	56,235	W
Minnesota 32,	Green Bay 6	A	47,637	W
Minnesota 10,	Houston 23	A	32,738	L
Minnesota 33,	New Orleans 17	H	51,209	W

NEW ORLEANS SAINTS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

New Orleans 10,	Atlanta 31	H	67,950	L
New Orleans 24,	Green Bay 10	A	56,383	W
New Orleans 17,	SF 49ers 26	A	58,297	L
New Orleans 17,	NY Giants 20	A	72,765	L
New Orleans 6,	Washington 14	H	57,317	L
New Orleans 17,	Indianapolis 14	A	53,512	L
New Orleans 38,	Tampa Bay 7	H	43,355	W
New Orleans 23,	NY Jets 28	A	44,246	L
New Orleans 23,	SF 49ers 10	H	53,234	W
New Orleans 6,	LA Rams 0	H	62,352	W
New Orleans 16,	St. Louis 7	A	32,069	W
New Orleans 13,	LA Rams 26	A	58,600	L
New Orleans 20,	New England 21	H	58,259	L
New Orleans 27,	Miami 31	H	64,761	L
New Orleans 14,	Atlanta 9	A	39,994	W
New Orleans 17,	Minnesota 33	A	51,209	L

NEW YORK GIANTS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

NY Giants 28,	Dallas 31	A	59,804	L
NY Giants 20,	San Diego 7	H	74,921	W
NY Giants 14,	LA Raiders 9	A	71,164	W
NY Giants 20,	New Orleans 17	H	72,769	W
NY Giants 13,	St. Louis 6	A	40,562	W
NY Giants 35,	Philadelphia 3	H	74,221	W
NY Giants 12,	Seattle 17	A	62,282	L
NY Giants 27,	Washington 20	H	75,923	W
NY Giants 17,	Dallas 14	H	74,871	W
NY Giants 17,	Philadelphia 14	A	60,601	W
NY Giants 22,	Minnesota 20	A	62,003	W
NY Giants 19,	Denver 16	H	75,116	W
NY Giants 21,	SF 49ers 17	A	59,777	W
NY Giants 24,	Washington 14	A	55,642	W
NY Giants 27,	St. Louis 7	H	75,261	W
NY Giants 55,	Green Bay 24	H	71,351	W

PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Philadelphia 14,	Washington 41	A	53,982	L
Philadelphia 10,	Chicago 13	A	65,130	L OT
Philadelphia 7,	Denver 33	H	63,839	L
Philadelphia 34,	LA Rams 20	H	65,646	W
Philadelphia 16,	Atlanta 0	A	57,104	W
Philadelphia 3,	NY Giants 35	A	74,221	L
Philadelphia 14,	Dallas 17	H	68,572	L
Philadelphia 23,	San Diego 7	H	41,469	W
Philadelphia 10,	St. Louis 13	A	33,051	L
Philadelphia 14,	NY Giants 17	H	60,601	L
Philadelphia 11,	Detroit 13	H	54,568	L
Philadelphia 20,	Seattle 24	A	55,786	L
Philadelphia 33,	LA Raiders 27	A	53,338	W OT
Philadelphia 10,	St. Louis 10	H	50,148	T OT
Philadelphia 23,	Dallas 21	A	46,117	W
Philadelphia 14,	Washington 21	H	61,816	L

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

St. Louis 10,	LA Rams 16	H	40,347	L
St. Louis 13,	Atlanta 33	A	46,463	L
St. Louis 10,	Buffalo 17	A	65,762	L
St. Louis 7,	Dallas 31	H	49,077	L
St. Louis 6,	NY Giants 13	H	40,562	L
St. Louis 30,	Tampa Bay 19	A	33,307	W
St. Louis 21,	Washington 28	A	53,494	L
St. Louis 7,	Dallas 38	A	60,756	L
St. Louis 13,	Philadelphia 10	H	33,051	W
St. Louis 17,	SF 49ers 43	A	50,172	L
St. Louis 7,	New Orleans 16	H	32,069	L
St. Louis 23,	Kansas City 14	H	29,680	W
St. Louis 17,	Washington 20	H	35,637	L
St. Louis 10,	Philadelphia 10	A	50,148	T
St. Louis 7,	NY Giants 27	A	75,261	L
St. Louis 21,	Tampa Bay 17	H	23,957	W

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

SF 49ers 31,	Tampa Bay 7	A	50,780	W
SF 49ers 13,	LA Rams 16	A	65,195	L
SF 49ers 26,	New Orleans 17	H	58,297	W
SF 49ers 31,	Miami 16	A	70,264	W
SF 49ers 35,	Indianapolis 14	H	57,252	W
SF 49ers 24,	Minnesota 27	H	58,637	L OT
SF 49ers 10,	Atlanta 10	A	55,306	T OT
SF 49ers 31,	Green Bay 17	A	50,557	W
SF 49ers 10,	New Orleans 23	A	53,234	L
SF 49ers 43,	St. Louis 17	H	59,172	W
SF 49ers 6,	Washington 14	A	54,774	L
SF 49ers 20,	Atlanta 0	H	58,747	W
SF 49ers 17,	NY Giants 21	H	59,777	L
SF 49ers 24,	NY Jets 10	H	58,091	W
SF 49ers 29,	New England 24	A	60,787	W
SF 49ers 24,	LA Rams 14	H	60,366	W

TAMPA BAY BUCCANEERS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Tampa Bay 7,	SF 49ers 31	H	50,780	L
Tampa Bay 10,	Minnesota 23	H	34,579	L
Tampa Bay 24,	Detroit 20	A	38,453	W
Tampa Bay 20,	Atlanta 23	H	38,950	L OT
Tampa Bay 20,	LA Rams 26	A	50,585	L OT
Tampa Bay 19,	St. Louis 30	H	33,307	L
Tampa Bay 7,	New Orleans 38	A	43,355	L
Tampa Bay 20,	Kansas City 27	A	36,230	L
Tampa Bay 34,	Buffalo 28	H	32,806	W
Tampa Bay 3,	Chicago 23	H	70,097	L
Tampa Bay 7,	Green Bay 31	A	48,271	L
Tampa Bay 17,	Detroit 38	H	30,029	L
Tampa Bay 13,	Minnesota 45	A	56,235	L
Tampa Bay 14,	Chicago 48	A	52,746	L
Tampa Bay 7,	Green Bay 21	H	30,099	L
Tampa Bay 17,	St. Louis 21	A	23,957	L

WASHINGTON REDSKINS

RESULTS AND ATTENDANCE (Actual)

Washington 41,	Philadelphia 14	H	53,982	W
Washington 10,	LA Raiders 6	H	55,235	W
Washington 30,	San Diego A		57,853	W
Washington 19,	Seattle 14	H	54,157	W
Washington 14,	New Orleans 6	A	57,378	W
Washington 6,	Dallas 30	A	63,264	L
Washington 28,	St. Louis 21	H	53,494	W
Washington 20,	NY Giants 27	A	75,923	L
Washington 44,	Minnesota 38	H	51,928	W OT
Washington 16,	Green Bay 7	A	47,728	W
Washington 14,	SF 49ers 6	H	54,774	W
Washington 41,	Dallas 14	H	55,642	W
Washington 20,	St. Louis 17	A	35,637	W
Washington 14,	NY Giants 24	H	55,642	L
Washington 30,	Denver 31	A	75,905	L
Washington 21,	Philadelphia 14	A	61,816	W

LOS ANGELES RAIDERS

RAIDERS NOT FAR FROM DOMINANCE AGAIN

BY JAY LAWRENCE

Quarterbacks are one of the quickest ways to start an argument among Los Angeles Raider fans. Just ask who the team's No. 1 quarterback should be—Jim Plunkett, Marc Wilson or Rusty Hilger.

While the sentimental favorite might be Plunkett, sentiment does not play a large role in Raider owner Al Davis' decision-making process.

And Plunkett, who will be 40 in December, underwent arthroscopic surgery on his right rotator cuff in March.

Wilson has been roundly booed for the past two seasons at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Despite a 20-9 record as the Raiders' starting quarterback since '84, he was benched late last season.

Hilger has attempted 51 passes in two seasons and has never started a game. The situation remains unsettled and unsettling.

During the off-season, the Raiders expressed interest in former Eagles quarterback Ron Jaworski, but only two journeymen—Ed Luther and Bruce Mathison—were signed.

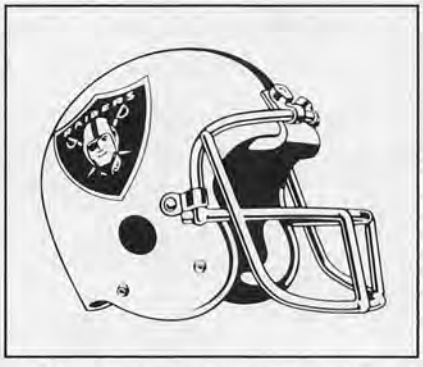
The Raiders' choice for quarterback of the present remains a mystery. But if the team's quarterback of the future is one from the recent past, the job appears to belong to Hilger.

He diligently attended the Raider's off-season conditioning program and practiced daily with receivers and running backs.

And despite his inexperience, his work habits have drawn praise from the coaching staff.

"We think Rusty is talented," Raider's coach Tom Flores said. "Now we have to find out if he can play consistently, week in, week out. He'll be given the opportunity to demonstrate how far he's progressed.

"Jim would like to play one more year. Because of the surgery, I don't know if he'll be able to. We'll wait and see with him.



"Marc is somewhere in the middle. I don't think there's any question he can start in the NFL. He can throw the ball as well as almost anybody. It's just that, for whatever reason, you press a little bit or try too hard and things don't go in sync all the time. But I always felt Marc could play and I still feel that way."

Despite the unstable quarterback situation and an offensive line that is expected to undergo major reconstruction in 1987, Flores says the Raiders are "not that far away from being a dominant team again."

But dominance is one word you would not use in describing the Raiders' 8-8 finish in 1986, the club's second non-winning season in the past 22 years. In four of their eight losses, the Raiders blew a lead in the second half. In games decided by six points or fewer, they were 5-6.

Flores remains undaunted.

"It's not like we have to have a complete overhaul," he said. "We haven't won two Super Bowls (since 1980) by panicking."

The offensive line allowed 64 sacks, second most in the NFL behind Philadelphia's record setting 104.

Center Don Mosebar was named to the Pro Bowl, but there will be shake-ups at guard and tackle in '87.

Shelby Jordan replaced 35-year old Henry Lawrence at right tackle after 14 games. But Jordan, 34, is not the long-term solution.

Chris Riehm, who previously started for the USFL's Houston Gamblers, can play guard or tackle. Late in the year, he replaced left guard Charley Hannah, who broke a bone in his hand. Riehm is a front runner for a starting job at tackle this season.

The Raiders have intimated that back-up center Bill Lewis might be moved to guard. Lewis could challenge Hannah for a job, while former starter Curt Marsh attempts to win his job back from right guard Mickey Marvin. Marsh was sidelined for 14 games last season because of a leg injury.

"Changes on the offensive line are forthcoming," Flores said. "Not wholesale but one or two to make it formidable again. Mosebar (a former guard) is settling in at center. He might be there 10 years.

"If Curt stays healthy, he could have some impact or at least push some

people in the offensive line. Lewis is our type player. He's as big as a house (6'6", 275)."

The Raiders' receiving corps made its biggest catch in recent months when former Canadian Football League most valuable player Mervyn Fernandez was signed in March.

Fernandez, a 10th-round pick of the Raiders in 1983, had 95 receptions for British Columbia in '85, when the Lions won the Grey Cup.

Fernandez is expected to challenge Jessie Hester for a starting job.

In his second season, Hester made 23 receptions in '86, but also dropped numerous passes.

Dokie Williams had 43 catches and showed consistent progress in his second year as a starter.

Tight end Todd Christensen led the league in receiving with 95 receptions.

"Our receivers are very young and will continue to get better," Flores said. "I don't know what Mervyn's impact will be. All we'll ask of him is to get in the end zone, and I think he'll do that."

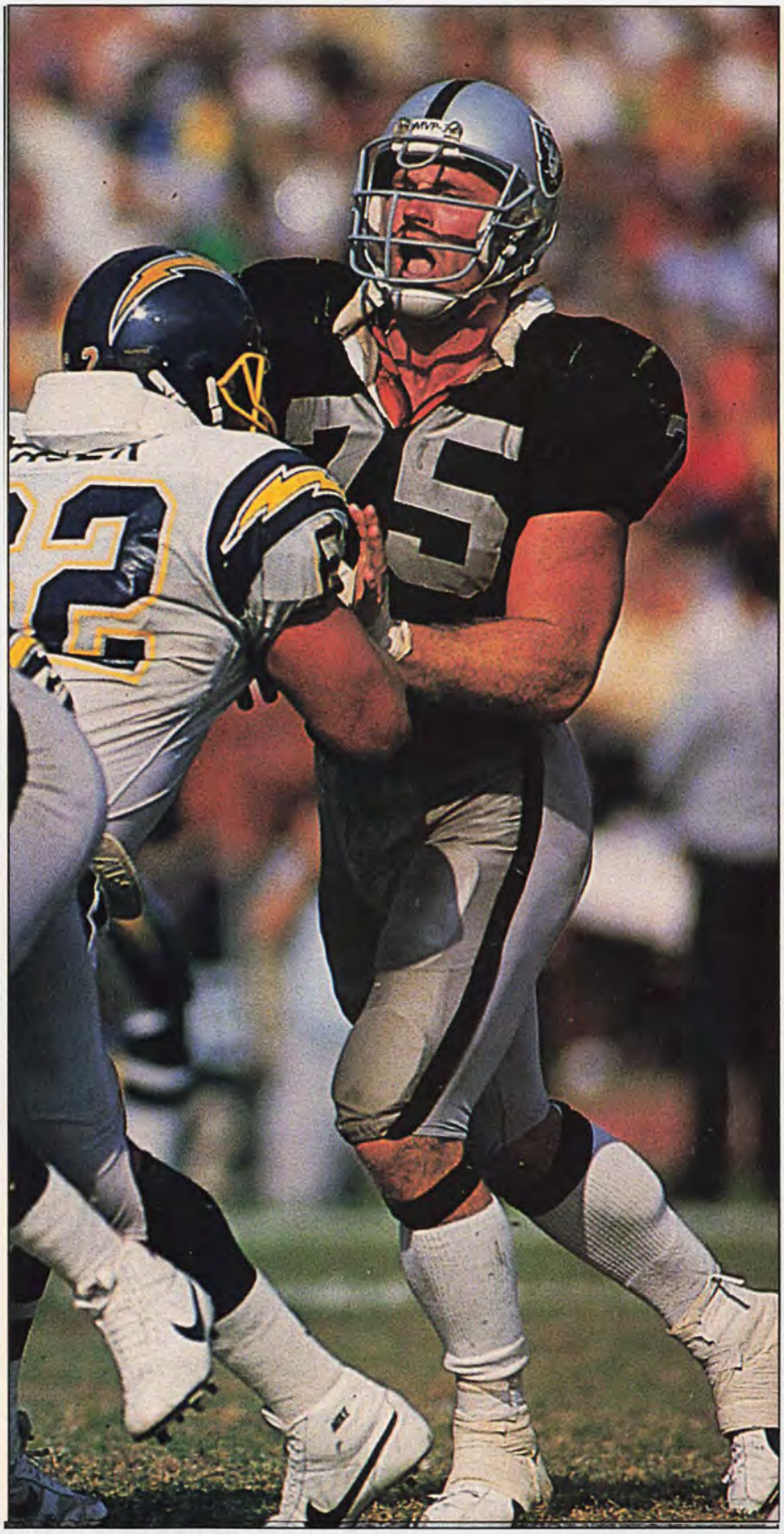
Running back Marcus Allen sprained his ankle against the New York Giants in the third game last season and finished with 759 yards rushing, exactly 1000 less than his league-leading total in '85.

Rookie Napoleon McCallum again is expected to do double duty, alternating between his morning job as a supply officer in the Navy and practicing with the Raiders in the afternoon. McCallum rushed for 536 yards last year while serving as Allen's backup.

Frank Hawkins is considered by many to be the best blocking fullback in the NFL, but the Raiders lack depth at the position.

The Raiders finished 13th in the league in rushing last season, but Flores expects the productivity to increase this year.

"Marcus' problem (in '86) was the injury," Flores said. "There are no other concerns. We had to hold him out on (artificial) turf and then when he did play, the ankle stiffened up on him. We're looking forward to having him healthy again. It makes a big difference in how we move the ball."



Raiders' Howie Long is a definite force to be reckoned with

While the Raiders endure quarterback problems, they also continue to create difficulties for opposing passers.

They led the NFL with 63 sacks, and defensive end Sean Jones, in his first year as a starter, was first in the AFC in sacks with 15 1/2.

The already-strong combination of Jones, Bill Pickel and Howie Long should be strengthened by the return of last year's No. 1 draft pick Bob Buczkowski, who spent the entire season on injured reserve because of a degenerative disc in his lower back.

"Sean had the kind of season we thought he could, and he should be better (in '87)," Flores said. "We really liked Buczkowski before he got hurt, and we're eager to see him in there."

The Raiders were third in the NFL in total defense last season, but outside linebacker could be an area of concern this year.

Jerry Robinson, who was acquired from Philadelphia in 1985, grew more comfortable with his starting role as the '86 season progressed.

The Raiders seemingly lack depth, outside and inside, where Matt Millen and Reggie McKenzie helped them limit opposing teams to an average of 108 yards rushing.

Los Angeles finished ninth in the NFL in pass defense last season, but cornerbacks Mike Haynes and Lester Hayes are 34 and 32, respectively.

The Raiders, however, appear to have depth.

Sammy Seale, who started four games last season when Haynes was sidelined with a calf injury, had four interceptions in '86.

Brad Cochran, last year's third-round draft pick, is healthy after undergoing back surgery. Cochran spent the entire '85 season on injured reserve.

The Raiders also acquired former starting cornerback Lionel Washington from the St. Louis Cardinals in March.

Free safety Vann McElroy was fourth in the league with seven interceptions last season, and strong safety Stacey Toran had two interceptions in his first year as a starter.

LA's Todd Christensen (46) holds on after being hit

"We feel good about the secondary," Flores said. "You never know when a guy gets as old (as Haynes and Hayes), with the man-to-man coverage, how long he'll last. Because there's no barometer. But Mike Haynes is a young 34 and Lester has been working very hard the last two years."

Kicker Chris Bahr, 34, made 21 of 28 field goal attempts, but punter Ray Guy, 37, averaged 40.2 yards a kick, second lowest in his 14-year career.

Flores said careful consideration would be taken with any prospective changes. "Whatever we do, we'll do quietly," Flores said. "We won't panic. We didn't finish well in '81 (7-9), but we came back (with an 8-1 record in the strike-shortened '82 season) and we will expect that this time.

"A couple of changes are all we need to get back to being where we were. I think the players feel very positive about '87. All you have to do is put 8-8 on the blackboard and that's enough to explain what has to be done."□

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
6	**Wilson**, Marc	QB	6-6	205	8	Brigham Young
8	**Guy**, Ray	P	6-3	195	15	Southern Mississippi
10	**Bahr**, Chris	K	5-10	175	12	Penn State
12	**Hilger**, Rusty	QB	6-4	200	3	Oklahoma State
16	**Plunkett**, Jim	QB	6-2	219	17	Stanford
18	**Jensen**, Russ	QB	6-2	215	2	California Lutheran
22	**Haynes**, Mike	CB	6-2	189	12	Arizona State
23	**McKinney**, Odis	S	6-2	190	10	Colorado
26	**McElroy**, Vann	FS	6-0	192	6	Baylor
27	**Hawkins**, Frank	RB	5-9	210	7	Nevada-Reno
28	**Montgomery**, Cle	WR	5-8	180	7	Abilene Christian
30	**Toran**, Stacey	SS	6-2	200	4	Notre Dame
31	**Jensen**, Derrick	RB	6-1	220	9	Texas-Arlington
32	**Allen**, Marcus	RB	6-2	205	6	Southern California
33	**King**, Kenny	RB	5-11	205	9	Oklahoma
34	**McCallum**, Napoleon	RB	6-2	220	2	Navy
35	**McSwain**, Chuck	RB	6-0	195	4	Clemson
36	**Davis**, Mike	S	6-3	205	10	Colorado
37	**Hayes**, Lester	CB	6-0	200	11	Texas A&M
38	**Cochran**, Brad	CB	6-3	200	1	Michigan
39	**Strachan**, Steve	RB	6-1	218	3	Boston College
40	**Lee**, Zeph	RB	6-3	213	1	Southern California
42	**Mueller**, Vance	RB	6-0	210	1	Occidental
43	**Seale**, Sam	CB	5-9	175	4	Western State, Colo.
44	**Adams**, Stefon	FS	5-10	185	2	East Carolina
45	**Davis**, James	CB	6-0	197	6	Southern U.
46	**Christensen**, Todd	TE	6-3	227	9	Brigham Young
47	**Seabaugh**, Todd	LB	6-4	225	3	San Diego State
48	**Barnett**, Buster	TE	6-5	240	6	Jackson State
49	**Cooper**, Earl	TE	6-2	225	8	Rice
50	**Dalby**, Dave	C	6-3	250	16	UCLA
51	**Nelson**, Bob	LB	6-4	235	10	Nebraska
52	**King**, Linden	OLB	6-4	245	10	Colorado State
53	**Martin**, Rod	OLB	6-2	220	11	Southern California
54	**McKenzie**, Reggie	ILB	6-1	240	3	Tennessee
55	**Millen**, Matt	ILB	6-2	245	8	Penn State
56	**Barnes**, Jeff	OLB	6-2	230	11	California
57	**Robinson**, Jerry	OLB	6-2	216	9	UCLA
59	**Kimmel**, Jamie	ILB	6-3	235	2	Syracuse
60	**Marsh**, Curt	G	6-5	275	6	Washington
62	**Haden**, Nick	C	6-2	270	2	Penn State
65	**Marvin**, Mickey	G	6-4	270	11	Tennessee
66	**Lewis**, Bill	C	6-6	275	1	Nebraska
67	**Wheeler**, Dwight	C	6-3	275	8	Tennessee State
68	**Van Divier**, Randy	T	6-5	290	4	Washington
69	**Russell**, Rusty	T	6-5	290	3	South Carolina
70	**Lawrence**, Henry	T	6-4	270	14	Florida A&M
71	**Pickel**, Bill	DT	6-5	260	5	Rutgers
72	**Mosebar**, Don	C	6-6	270	5	Southern California
73	**Hannah**, Charley	G	6-5	260	11	Alabama
74	**Jordan**, Shelby	T	6-7	280	11	Washington, Mo.
75	**Long**, Howie	DE	6-5	270	7	Villanova
76	**Belcher**, Kevin	G	6-5	285	3	Wisconsin
77	**Riehm**, Chris	T	6-6	285	2	Ohio State
78	**Marrone**, Doug	G	6-5	270	1	Syracuse
79	**Davis**, Bruce	T	6-6	278	9	UCLA
80	**Davis**, Bruce	WR	5-8	160	3	Baylor
81	**Parker**, Andy	TE	6-5	240	4	Utah
82	**Shepherd**, Larry	WR	6-3	195	1	Houston
83	**Moffett**, Tim	WR	6-2	177	3	Mississippi
84	**Hester**, Jessie	WR	5-11	170	3	Florida State
85	**Williams**, Dokie	WR	5-11	180	5	UCLA
86	**Smith**, Jim	WR	6-2	195	9	Michigan
87	**Junkin**, Trey	TE	6-2	221	5	Louisiana Tech
88	**Barksdale**, Rod	WR	6-0	181	2	Arizona
89	**Pattison**, Mark	WR	6-2	195	2	Washington
92	**Mauntel**, Joe	LB	6-4	225	1	Eastern Kentucky
93	**Townsend**, Greg	DE	6-3	250	5	Texas Christian
94	**Franks**, Elvis	DE	6-4	265	8	Morgan State
95	**Buczkowski**, Bob	DE	6-4	270	1	Pittsburgh
97	**Reinke**, Jeff	DE	6-5	275	1	Mankato State
98	**Willis**, Mitch	DT	6-8	275	3	Southern Methodist
99	**Jones**, Sean	DE	6-7	273	3	Northeastern

RAIDERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	RAIDERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	302	283
Rushing	97	85
Passing	186	168
Penalty	19	30
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	88/222 39.6%	80/215 37.2%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	2/6 33.3%	2/7 28.6%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5299	4809
Avg. Per Game	331.2	300.6
Total Plays	1064	1001
Avg. Per Play	5.0	4.8
NET YARDS RUSHING	1790	1728
Avg. Per Game	111.9	108.0
Total Rushes	475	439
NET YARDS PASSING	3509	3076
Avg. Per Game	219.3	192.3
Tackled/Yards Lost	64/464	63/463
Gross Yards	3973	3539
Attempts/Completions	530/281	501/271
Pct. of Completions	53.0	54.1
Had Intercepted	25	26
PUNTS/AVERAGE	90/40.2	97/42.1
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.8	34.5
PENALTIES/YARDS	114/953	116/846
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	36/24	33/12
TOUCHDOWNS	37	43
Rushing	6	19
Passing	27	21
Returns	4	3

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
RAIDERS	96	88	90	43	6	323
Opp. Total	69	99	92	80	6	346

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Bahr	3-3	6-6	6-9	5-8	1-2	21-28

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Allen	208	759	3.6	28	5
McCallum	142	536	3.8	18	1
Hawkins	58	245	4.2	15	0

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Christensen	95	1153	12.1	35	8
Allen	46	453	9.8	36	2
Williams	43	843	19.6	53	8
Hawkins	25	166	6.6	16	0
Hester	23	632	27.5	81	6

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
McElroy	7	105	15.0	28	0
Robinson	4	42	10.5	32	1
Seale	4	2	0.5	2	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Guy	90	3620	40.2	11	20	64	0

PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Walker	49	15	440	9.0	70	1
McCallum	7	1	44	6.3	13	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Adams	27	573	21.2	51	0
Walker	23	358	15.6	27	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Plunkett	252	133	1986	52.8	7.88	14	5.6	9	3.6	81	27/215	82.5
Wilson	240	129	1721	53.8	7.17	12	5.0	15	6.3	57	34/227	67.4

RAIDERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	John **CLAY** *OT*	6-5, 298	**Missouri**	'86 first team All-Big 8 Conf. & All-American...benched pressed 475 lbs.
2	Bruce **WILKERSON** *OG-T*	6-5, 272	**Tennessee**	'86 first team All-SEC...consistently graded over 87% for blocking in every game.
3	Steve **SMITH** *FB*	6-1, 232	**Penn St.**	'86 fourth on team with 362 yds. on 86 carries (4.2 avg.) & 5 TD's...caught 14 passes for 134 yds. & a TD.
4	Steve **BEUERLEIN** *QB*	6-3, 201	**Notre Dame**	Comp. 473 passes during his career, more than any other passer in school history, also holding the school record for passing attps. (849) & ydg. (6527).
7	Bo **JACKSON** *RB*	6-3, 225	**Auburn**	'85 Heisman winner...'86 no.1 pick of Tampa Bay, chose baseball with K.C. Royals.
9	Scott **ECCLES** *TE*	6-5, 225	**E. New Mexico**	'86 All-Lone Star Conf., 24 recpts., for 245 yds. and 1 TD.
10A	Rob **HARRISON** *RB*	6-2, 237	**Sacramento St.**	'86 rushed for 1334 yds. on 179 carries and 9 TD's.
10B	John **GESEK** *OG-T*	6-4,271	**Cal St. Sacremento**	'86 first team All-Western Football Conf...benched pressed over 470 lbs.
10C	Jim **ELLIS** *LB*	6-2, 237	**Boise St.**	'86 leading tackler on team with 105 (33 solos), 1 fmb. rec., & 6 sacks.
11A	Chris **McLEMORE** *RB*	6-1, 223	**Arizona**	'86 broken bone in foot, still managed 58 rushes for 238 yds. & 3 TD's.
11B	Mario **PERRY** *TE*	6-5, 230	**Mississippi**	'86 injured but still recorded 7 catches for 52 yds.

SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

CHARGERS AIM FOR A BALANCED OFFENSE

BY JAY POSNER ■ *[Chip Banks was obtained from Cleveland on draft day.]*

In a city dominated by the defense industry, the San Diego Chargers have always provided a source of relief. Defense was the one word no one at San Diego Jack Murphy Stadium had to include in their vocabulary.

But something funny is going around San Diego these days. The football team's new head coach not only knows the meaning of defense, he knows of its importance.

"It is our belief that you have to play strong defense in order to be a team of championship caliber," Al Saunders says.

Saunders, who replaced Don Coryell at the midway point of the Chargers' 4-12 season in 1986, is the first to admit his concept is not a new one, except in San Diego.

"The past philosophy here was always to score as many points as possible because the defense was not going to stop anybody," Saunders said. "We're trying to change that."

With the help of new defensive coordinator Ron Lynn and players like Defensive Rookie of the Year Leslie O'Neal and Billy Ray Smith, the Chargers did import at least some change in their defense last year. Having ranked no higher than 25th in the league in defense since 1982, the club spent much of the year in the top 20—at one point ranking 16th—before slipping to 23rd at the end of the year.

But, while the defense was on the rise, the Chargers' famed offense was on the decline. Plagued by turnovers in the first half of the year, San Diego lost seven straight games after winning its opener. Finally, burdened with a 1-7 record and having won only 22 of his last 56 games dating back to 1983, Coryell resigned.

Saunders was promoted from assistant head coach, and the youthful (then 39) coach immediately made his impact felt. Hoping to limit the turnovers, Saunders intimated it was time for San Diegans to say goodbye to the high-scoring days when a long drive meant it was five plays before the Chargers

reached the end zone. Say hello to ball-control.

"The thing that is most important to us is that we have the ability to be a balanced offense," Saunders said. "The longer you have the ball, the less opportunity your opponents have to score."

The offense, which had led the NFL every year from 1979-85 except '84, slipped to 12th last year in the final yardage rankings. It started the year with a 50-point, 500-yard explosion against Miami, then tumbled downhill from there.

This year, it will have to make do without not only Coryell, but also offensive coordinator Ernie Zampese, generally regarded as one of the game's leading assistant coaches. Zampese, who has turned down numerous head coaching opportunities in the past, was the architect of the Chargers' famed Air Coryell passing game. He resigned in February to join the Los Angeles Rams' staff at a reported salary of $150,000 a year.

Also gone from the coaching staff are assistants Hank Bauer (special teams) and Earnel Durden (running backs), who were not rehired upon the expiration of their contracts.

In keeping with the change motif, the Chargers' front office was also reshuffled in the offseason. General Manager Johnny Sanders was demoted and his assistant, Tank Younger, was fired. The power now belongs mainly to Steve Ortmayer, the team's new director of football operations who was hired away from the Los Angeles Raiders.

New assistant coaches include former University of California Coach Roger Theder (quarterbacks), who will take over Zampese's play-calling duties; former Atlanta assistant Bobby Jackson (running backs); former Washington and Chargers assistant Wayne Sevier (special teams); and the NFL's all-time leading receiver, Charlie Joiner (receivers).

Joiner's retirement leaves only 10 players who were with the team in 1982, the last year it had a winning season and went to the playoffs. The Chargers have gone 25-39 since 1983.

Foremost among the 10 is quarterback Dan Fouts, once regarded as the Michaelangelo of quarterbacks. Fouts, 36, has thrown more times and for more yards than any quarterback other than Fran Tarkenton. And, despite an off year in '86, the Chargers remain committed to

him for at least the two years he has left on his $750,000-a-year contract.

Fouts struggled mightily in the first half of last season, throwing 19 interceptions and only nine touchdowns, but he was much more efficient under Saunders' controlled system. He finished the year with 22 interceptions and 16 touchdowns.

The concern this year, as always, is Fouts' health. He has missed at least three starts in each of the last four seasons because of injuries.

"If he holds up physically, I think Dan will have a real fine year," Saunders said. "He gives us that maturity and leadership ability, and he still has great touch and timing."

Backup Mark Herrmann has played well in relief of Fouts the past two seasons. In five starts, Herrmann has thrown for more than 300 yards three times. Tom Flick, who was at the controls when the Chargers stunned Denver last year,is No. 3.

With the emphasis on ball-control, the Chargers' running backs will play an even larger role this year. Saunders has made no secret of his desire for a "dominant" running back in the mold of Eric Dickerson or Curt Warner or Marcus Allen or ...

If no personnel changes are made, Tim Spencer (6-1, 224) could be a key here. The former Ohio State and USFL star has been plagued by injuries in his first two NFL seasons, but he will be given every opportunity to shine this year.

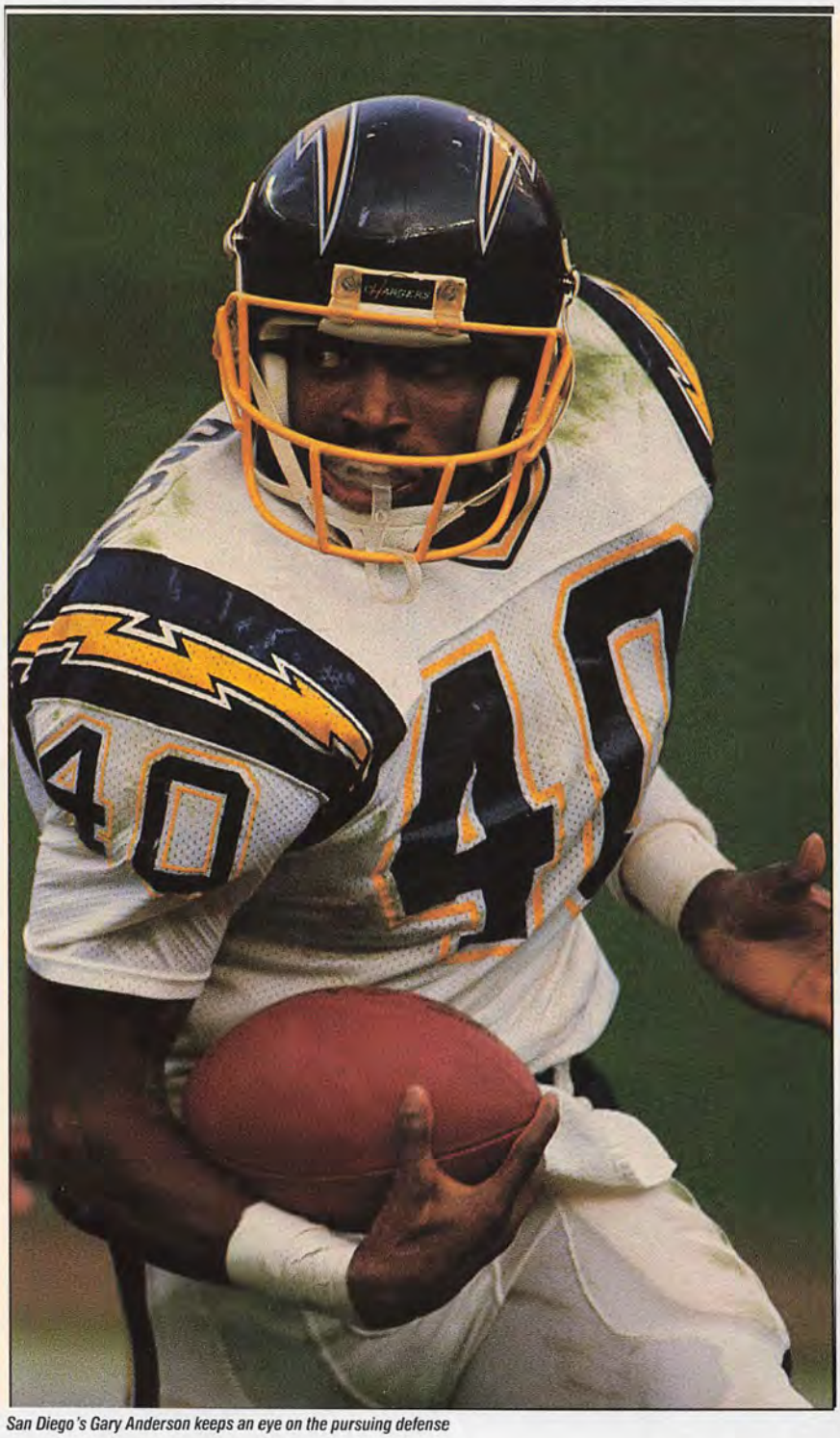
"His history is one of being an every-down, dominant runner," Saunders said. "We need to find out if he can do that at this level."

The Chargers already know what Gary Anderson (6-0, 180) and Lionel "Train" James (5-6 1/2, 171) can do—just about everything. The latter led the Chargers in rushing, receiving and punt and kickoff returns in 1985, when he set NFL records for all-purpose yards (2,535) and yards receiving by a running back (1,027). He also led the AFC with 86 receptions.

The elusive and highly entertaining Anderson had the team leadership honors in all four categories in 1986, when James missed the final nine games with a foot injury. Anderson also paced AFC running backs last year with 80 catches, and he earned the team's lone Pro Bowl berth and its MVP award.

Wide receiver Wes Chandler didn't match his Pro Bowl season of 1985 (67 receptions, 1,199 yards) last year, but his 56 catches were third on the team behind Anderson and Kellen Winslow (64).

With Joiner's retirement, former USFL sensation Trumaine Johnson will be the new starter opposite Chandler, though



San Diego's Gary Anderson keeps an eye on the pursuing defense

both James and Anderson can also play the position. Johnson caught 15 passes in one two-week span last year, but he finished the year with only 30 receptions. The Chargers are still waiting for him to produce like he did in the USFL, where he caught 171 passes in only two seasons.

Timmie Ware is the club's third receiver, but more speed is needed at the position. The Chargers had only one play last year over 40 yards, and it came in the last game of the year—a 65-yard catch-and-run by Anderson.

A position that needs no help is tight end. Winslow (6-5 1/2, 250), once thought to be on the trading block, now appears on the verge of regaining the All-World form he showed before a serious knee injury felled him in 1984. After a slow start, Winslow caught 45 passes in the final nine games.

"Mentally, emotionally, physically and every other way, Kellen is ready to be a dominant figure in the league again," Saunders said.

On the offensive line, a burgeoning star appears to be left tackle Jim Lachey (6-6, 284), whom the Chargers felt should have been selected to the Pro Bowl. Sam Claphan (6-6, 288) had his best season after switching from right tackle to left guard, while center Don Macek has kept up his steady play, even after 11 seasons in the league. On the right side, tackle Gary Kowalski (6-6, 279) and guard Dennis McKnight (6-3, 270) are starters.

No. 1 draft choice James FitzPatrick (6-7 1/2, 302) was a huge disappointment last year, but the club was hoping a strenuous offseason conditioning program would enable FitzPatrick to bounce back this year.

The only disappointment surrounding the Chargers' other No. 1 choice last year came Nov. 30, when defensive end Leslie O'Neal (6-4, 255) tore up his knee. O'Neal had picked up 12 1/2 sacks in 12 games, including five in one game, and appeared headed to the Pro Bowl.

O'Neal's presence also spurred improvement among other defenders, most notably end Lee Williams (6-5, 263), who ranked second in the AFC with 15 sacks. But, with O'Neal unlikely to play until late this season—or maybe not at all until 1988—teams figure to pay more attention to Williams.

"The loss of Leslie O'Neal was a real setback," understated Saunders, who must enter the season with CFL refugee Earl Wilson (6-4, 280) as his starting left end. The nose tackle position will again be shared by overachiever Chuck Ehin (6-4, 257) and second-year man Terry Unrein (6-5, 283).

The Chargers set a club record last year with 62 sacks, including 11 by linebacker Billy Ray Smith (6-3, 236), who in his first year on the outside recorded more sacks than any linebacker other than Lawrence Taylor.

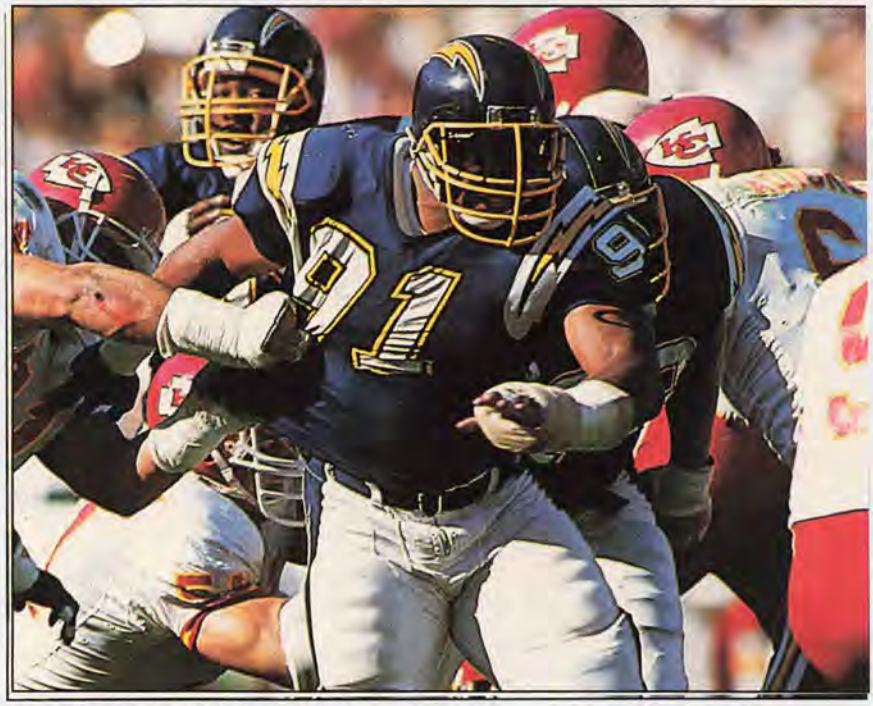
As for the rest of the linebackers, however, Saunders admitted, "We need help."

Thomas Benson (6-2, 235) came west in a trade with Atlanta and started all 16 games inside, but he was far from spectacular. The other inside backer, Gary Plummer (6-2, 230), is smart but slow, and at 33 veteran Woodrow Lowe (6-0, 229) has seen better days on the outside. Ty Allert (6-2, 233) could help here; he was the club's most valuable special teams player as a rookie last year.

Linebacker is not the only weakness of this defense, though. A patchwork secondary was riddled frequently by opposing quarterbacks, particularly when the pass rush broke down. Of course, injuries to cornerback Danny Walters and corner/safety John Hendy didn't help, and both are expected to be healthy this year. In their absence, several players were given an opportunity to play. Ken Taylor and Gill Byrd were the starters for most of the year, though Byrd is better suited for safety. Daniel Hunter, signed late in the year after he was released by the Denver Broncos, showed some ability on the corner and could be a surprise this year.

Another new acquisition during the season last year proved very beneficial, as Vencie Glenn came over from New England and started at free safety. He teamed with second-year strong safety Jeffery Dale to give the Chargers a solid duo inside.

Saunders is hoping the special teams show improvement under the guidance of Sevier, who was with the Chargers in 1979-80 before moving to Washington. Kicker Rolf Benirschke made just 16 of 25 field goal attempts last year, and punter Ralf Mojsiejenko was somewhat inconsistent.□



Stopping Chargers' Leslie O'Neal is no easy task

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
2	**Mojsiejenko**, Ralf	P-K	6-2	210	3	Michigan State
6	**Benirschke**, Rolf	K	6-1	179	10	Cal-Davis
9	**Herrmann**, Mark	QB	6-4	199	7	Purdue
12	**Flick**, Tom	QB	6-3	190	4	Washington
14	**Fouts**, Dan	QB	6-3	204	15	Oregon
20	**Davis**, Wayne	CB	5-11	171	3	Indiana State
21	**McGee**, Buford	FB	6-0	206	4	Mississippi
22	**Byrd**, Gill	FS	5-11	201	5	San Jose State
23	**Walters**, Danny	CB	6-1	200	4	Arkansas
24	**Taylor**, Ken	CB	6-1	186	3	Oregon State
25	**Glenn**, Vencie	FS	6-0	183	2	Indiana State
26	**James**, Lionel	RB-WR	5-7	170	4	Auburn
27	**Hunter**, Daniel	CB	5-11	180	3	Henderson State
29	**Hendy**, John	FS	5-11	198	2	Cal State-Long Beach
30	**Wyatt**, Kevin	DB	5-10	190	2	Arkansas
33	**Sullivan**, John L	CB-S	6-1	190	2	California
37	**Dale**, Jeffery	SS	6-3	210	3	Louisiana State
40	**Anderson**, Gary	RB-WR	6-0	180	3	Arkansas
42	**Adams**, Curtis	RB	5-11	194	2	Central Michigan
43	**Spencer**, Tim	FB	6-1	220	3	Ohio State
50	**Plummer**, Gary	ILB	6-2	230	2	California
51	**Lowe**, Woodrow	OLB	6-0	227	12	Alabama
52	**Snipes**, Angelo	OLB	6-0	215	2	West Georgia
54	**Smith**, Billy Ray	OLB	6-3	231	5	Arkansas
55	**Nelson**, Derrie	ILB	6-2	234	5	Nebraska
56	**Allert**, Ty	ILB	6-2	240	2	Texas
57	**Benson**, Thomas	ILB	6-2	240	4	Oklahoma
59	**Hawkins**, Andy	OLB	6-2	230	6	Texas A & I
60	**McKnight**, Dennis	G	6-3	273	6	Drake
61	**Dallafior**, Ken	G	6-4	277	3	Minnesota
62	**Macek**, Don	C	6-2	270	12	Boston College
63	**Leonard**, Jim	C-G	6-3	270	7	Santa Clara
68	**Kowalski**, Gary	G-T	6-6	279	4	Boston College
70	**FitzPatrick**, James	T	6-8	305	2	Southern California
72	**Walker**, Jeff	G	6-5	295	2	Memphis State
74	**Lachey**, Jim	T	6-6	285	3	Ohio State
75	**DiGiacomo**, Curt	G	6-4	275	2	Arizona
77	**Claphan**, Sam	T	6-6	282	7	Oklahoma
78	**Ehin**, Chuck	NT	6-4	265	5	Brigham Young
80	**Winslow**, Kellen	TE	6-5	246	9	Missouri
81	**Ware**, Timmie	WR	5-10	171	2	Southern California
83	**Johnson**, Trumaine	WR	6-1	196	3	Grambling
85	**Sievers**, Eric	TE	6-4	235	7	Maryland
87	**Moore**, Malcolm	TE	6-3	236	1	Southern California
88	**Holohan**, Pete	TE	6-4	240	7	Notre Dame
89	**Chandler**, Wes	WR	6-0	186	10	Florida
90	**Moore**, Mack	DE	6-4	258	3	Texas A & M
91	**O'Neal**, Leslie	DE	6-4	255	2	Oklahoma State
92	**Hardison**, Dee	DE	6-4	274	10	North Carolina
93	**Wilson**, Earl	DE	6-4	280	3	Kentucky
96	**Winter**, Blaise	DE	6-3	274	3	Syracuse
97	**Simmons**, Tony	DE	6-4	268	2	Tennessee
98	**Unrein**, Terry	NT	6-5	283	2	Colorado State
99	**Williams**, Lee	DE	6-5	263	4	Bethune-Cookman
	Fellows, Mark	ILB	6-1	233	1	Montana State
	Powell, Jeff	WR	5-10	185	1	Tennessee
	Rome, Tag	WR	5-9	175	1	Northeast Louisiana
	Shepherd, Larry	WR	6-3	204	1	Houston

CHARGERS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	CHARGERS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	334	308
Rushing	98	104
Passing	212	182
Penalty	24	22
3rd Down: Made/Att. (%)	97/230 42%	93/222 42%
4th Down: Made/Att. (%)	6/13 46%	1/5 20%
TOTAL NET YARDS	5356	5362
Avg. Per Game	334.8	335.1
Total Plays	1107	1046
Avg. Per Play	4.8	5.1
NET YARDS RUSHING	1576	1674
Avg. Per Game	98.5	104.6
Total Rushes	471	475
NET YARDS PASSING	3780	3688
Avg. Per Game	236.3	230.5
Tackled/Yards Lost	32/265	62/438
Gross Yards	4045	4128
Attempts/Completions	604/339	509/288
Pct. of Completions	56.1	56.6
Had Intercepted	33	15
PUNTS/AVERAGE	79/40.4	81/40.8
NET PUNTING AVG.	32.8	34.9
PENALTIES/YARDS	119/977	108/918
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	29/16	42/23
TOUCHDOWNS	41	47
Rushing	19	14
Passing	21	27
Returns	1	6

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	TOTAL
CHARGERS	73	125	48	89	0	335
Opp. Total	64	98	101	127	6	396

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	TOTAL
Benirschke	1-1	6-9	5-8	3-5	1-2	16-25

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Anderson	127	442	3.5	17	1
Adams	118	366	3.1	22	4
Spencer	99	350	3.5	23	6

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Anderson	80	871	10.9	65t	8
Winslow	64	728	11.4	28t	5
Chandler	56	874	15.6	40	4
Joiner	34	440	12.9	33	2
Johnson	30	399	13.3	30	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Byrd	5	45	9.0	18	0
Dale	4	153	38.3	50	0
Glenn	2	31	15.5	31	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	Lg	Blk.
Mojsiejenko	72	3026	42.0	11	15	62	0
Chandler/Team	5/2	167	33.4	0	0	38	0/2

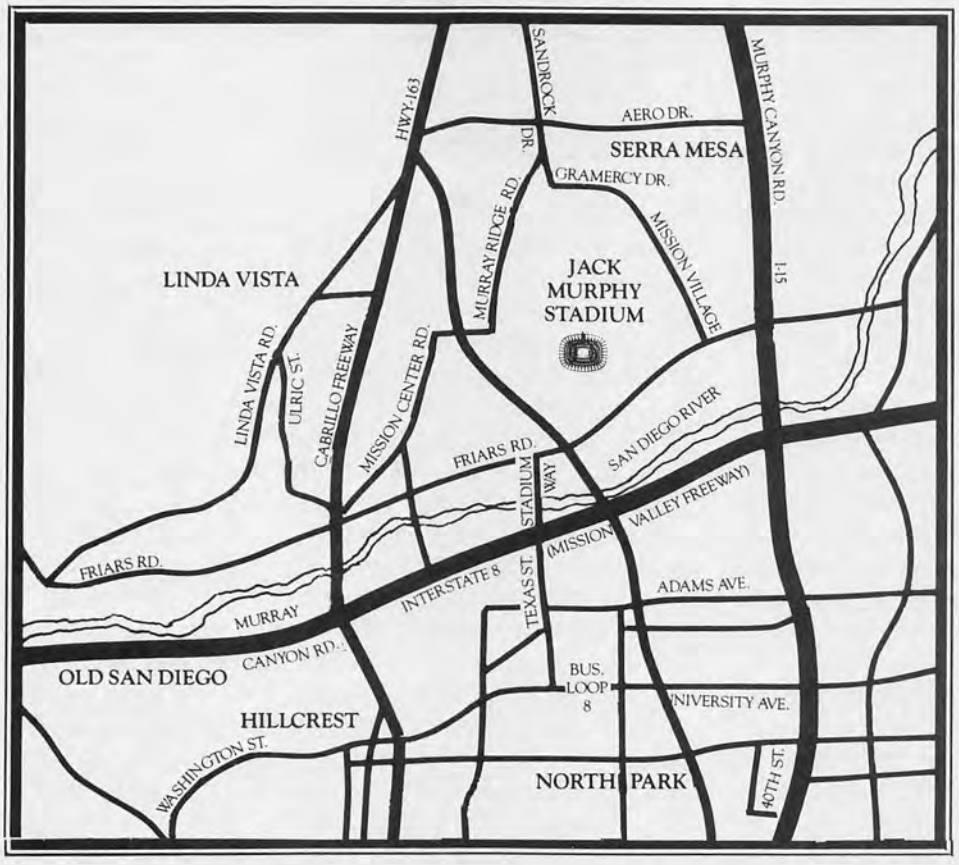
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Anderson	25	10	227	9.1	30	0
James	9	6	94	10.4	21	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
Anderson	24	482	20.1	35	0
James	18	315	17.5	31	0

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att	Rating
Fouts	430	252	3031	58.6	7.05	16	3.7	22	5.1	65t	21/173	71.4
Herrmann	97	51	627	52.6	6.46	2	2.1	3	3.1	28	5/43	66.9

CHARGERS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Rod **BERNSTINE** *TE*	6-3, 247	**Texas A&M**	'86 first team All-SWC & All-American...led league in receptions with 65 catches for 710 yds. & 5 TD's.
2	Louis **BROCK** *CB*	5-11, 165	**USC**	Father, Lou, is baseball Hall Of Fame great...'86 second team All-Pac 10...66 tackles (42 solos), 2 fmb. cau., 10 pass deflections, 4 int's.
3	Karl **WILSON** *DE*	6-4, 251	**LSU**	'86 second team All-SEC...63 tackles (46 solos)...5 sacks & 11 tackles for 48 yds. in losses...1 fmb. cau. & 1 pass int.
4	Mark **VLASIC** *QB*	6-3, 206	**Iowa**	'86 comp. 108 passes of 180 attps. for 1,456 yds. & 11 TD's...5 int's.
5	Nelson **JONES** *CB*	6-0, 190	**No. Carolina St.**	'86...58 tackles (39 solos), 10 pass deflections, 2 int's...1 fmb. cau. & a fmb. rec...blked fg.
7	Jamie **HOLLAND** *WR*	6-2, 186	**Ohio St.**	'86 caught 8 passes for 142 yds., 1 TD...rushed for 1 TD.
8A	Joe **MACESKER** *OT*	6-7, 304	**Texas El Paso**	A 490 lb. bench press...'86 All-WAC...did not allow a sack all year & led the team's linemen with a 90% blocking grade.
8B	Ron **BROWN** *LB*	6-5, 215	**USC**	'86...109 tackles, 5 tackles for a loss...1 fmb. rec.
9	Thomas **WILCHER** *HB*	5-10, 188	**Michigan**	'86 played in every contest with 381 yds. & 6 TD's on 88 carries (4.3 avg.)...All-American honors in outdoor track.
10	Anthony **ANDERSON** *DB*	6-3, 180	**Grambling St.**	'86...90 tackles (48 solos), 8 pass deflections, 10 int's.
11	Joe **GOEBEL** *C*	6-5, 264	**UCLA**	'86 second team All-PAC 10...first team All Academic team, 2-year starter.
12	Marcus **GREENWOOD** *FB*	6-0, 210	**UCLA**	'86 didn't start any games, carried the ball 30 times for 136 yds. (4.5 avg.)...added 54 yds. on 7 recpts.



KANSAS CITY CHIEFS

OFFENSE IS KEY TO CHIEFS HAVING GOOD YEAR

BY JUDSON HAND

As a fighter pilot in the Air Force, Frank Gansz learned a thing or two about danger. He walked away from a disabled and smoking T-33 jet once, after landing the plane on a foamed runway. He suffered only a scratch or two.

All of which was good training for his current job: head coach of the Kansas City Chiefs. He can only hope to walk away from this experience with just a scratch.

Gansz is the sixth head coach the Chiefs have had since 1974, when owner Lamar Hunt started the revolving door spinning at Arrowhead Stadium.

Despite a 10-6 record last year and the team's first playoff spot since 1971, head coach John Mackovic was fired in January. Hunt's stated reason was "lack of communication." The real reason Mackovic lost his job was a players and coaching staff mutiny, that combined with Hunt's personal dislike for Mackovic. Thus, the only positive in the last 15 years of Chiefs' football was turned into a negative.

One of the most popular assistant coaches in Chiefs' history, Gansz has been cast in the role of savior by GM Jim Schaaf, who is now running the team's front office operation. The assistant head coach last year, Gansz was the only man considered as Mackovic's replacement.

"Anytime someone gets fired, it's not a pleasant situation." said Gansz, who did not take part in the backstabbing of Mackovic that went on among some of the assistant coaches. "Right now, we've got to get the direction of the team pointed upward. Last year was a good year for some parts of our team. Now, we must pull the team together and work as an entire unit.

"Every single landing on the carrier is being graded tonight. That's how we have to approach every day around here."

Gansz really talks like that. He's proven himself a motivational genius with his ability to weave football together with

military and ancient history. Last year, he served as a sort of morale officer for Mackovic, and in one speech he compared the achievements of Genghis Khan, Jimmy Doolittle, Michael Jordan and Jack Nicklaus.

He'll have his work cut out for him this year, especially with the Chief's offense, which finished last in the NFL in 1986, averaging just 263 yards a game. Only a good defense and maybe the best special teams season in NFL history allowed Kansas City to overcome it's putrid offense.

"When you finish last in the league, obviously improvement is needed," said Gansz. "We have spent a lot of time studying the successful offenses in the NFL, and we have torn our offense apart. With better communication and drilling, we will get better."

Gansz hired Homer Smith as his offensive coordinator. Smith is serving his first tour in the NFL, after 28 years as a college coach, including the last 10 seasons at UCLA where he was Terry Donahue's coordinator.

Early glimpses at the offense Smith has installed with the Chiefs shows a more collegiate look, with plenty of designed quarterback movement from rolling pockets and sprintout plays. Also, nearly 80 percent of the plays will be called at the line of scrimmage.

Now Gansz and Smith's problem will be finding a quarterback to run it from among three returnees: Bill Kenney, Todd Blackledge and Frank Seurer.

Kenney is the most polished and experienced of the three, and he is one of the NFL's best at reading defenses. However, he is not very quick a foot, and could have trouble with some of the planned movement. Seurer is just the opposite. He can move like a defensive back, but has trouble reading defenses.

That could make Blackledge the starter by default. He's not as good on picking up defenses as Kenney, but he's much more mobile. The former No. 1 draft choice out of Penn State has been a big disappointment for the Chiefs, and last year when he was handed the starting job by Mackovic, he was anything but impressive.

"The starting job will be very competitive, and any of the three could win it." said Gansz. "It's completely wide open. This is a different offense than they've had. They are going to have to

be able to literally audible this offense down the field."

The second biggest task for the Chiefs this year will be to develop a running game. Under Mackovic, Kansas City was 28th, 27th, 28th and 27th in rushing, and never really recovered from the drowning death of Joe Delaney in the summer of 1983. In the last 74 games, only 12-year veteran Mike Pruitt has topped the 100 yard rushing mark. Pruitt led the team in rushing last year with 448 yards. As the oldest running back in the NFL, it's doubtful Pruitt will make the Chiefs in 1987.

The remaining backs are a strange collection of veterans and youngsters with very different abilities. Herman Heard is the closest thing the Chiefs have to a feature back, but he had just 295 yards last year and had fumble problems. Boyce Green and Larry Moriarity were picked up in trades, but provided little offensive help. Jeff Smith has proven to be valuable on third-down plays and as a kick returner: he totaled 1,260 yards in all those departments last year.

"Although many people say we do not, we do have talent at running back on this team," said Gansz. "But when you've been at the bottom for four years, I can understand why nobody believes that. We need to develop a balanced offense and the running game has to come through. We have to be a threat to run the ball against anybody at any time."

Gansz must also solve a tight end problem, where three different players shared time last year: Walt Arnold, Paul Coffman and Jon Hayes. Combined, that trio had just 40 catches. "We literally played the position by committee last year." said Gansz. "That's just not going to get it done for you."

Kansas City has strengths to build on with its wide receivers and offensive line. Carlos Carson, Henry Marshall and Stephen Paige give the Chiefs one of the best receiving trios in football. Anthony Hancock continues to be an enigma because of injuries but rookie Emile Harry was impressive last year as his replacement.

Last year, there were three new offensive line starters, and it took center Rick Donnalley, right guard Mark Adickes and left tackle Irv Eatman awhile to blend in with returning veterans left guard Brad Budde and right tackle Dave Lutz. Once they did, the Chiefs had a solid unit. Last year's No. 1 pick, Brian Jozwiak, will push Budde for a starting job, and big things are still expected from former first-round pick John Alt at tackle. Those seven players average 6-5 in height and weigh a collective ton (286 average). And they average just 3.3 seasons of NFL experience.

"We are going to build on the ability of our offensive line, we'd be crazy if we did not," said Gansz. "The most consistent lineman we had last year was Rich Donnalley and Adickes is one of the brightest, most promising young offensive linemen I've ever seen...as young as this group is, it should get only better and better."

Last year the Chiefs made strides in solving a linebacking problem they've had since Hall of Famers Bobby Bell and Willie Lanier retired. Second-round draft choice Dino Hackett on the inside, and rookie free agent Tim Cofield on the outside became immediate starters. Before late season injury problems slowed him down, Hackett was averaging 10 tackles a game. Cofield proved to be a very good blitzer, and knocked three quarterbacks out during games.

The rest of the linebacking group is mediocre with Scott Radecic, Gary Spani, Aaron Pearson, Ken McAlister, Whitney Paul and Louis Cooper.

That's one reason new defensive coordinator John Paul Young was considering switching the team's basic alignment to a 4-3 from 3-4. That and the tremendous depth the Chiefs have developed on their defensive line, where they have no less than four former No. 1 picks.

Pro Bowl nose tackle Bill Maas, and former All-Pro end Art Still had their best seasons in 1986. Pete Kock finally showed some of his first-round potential filling in for Mike Bell, who was serving a prison term for a federal cocaine conviction. Bell is back, and along with last year's third-round choice Leonard Griffin, provides the depth.

"When I was coaching in Cincinnati (1979-80), the best defense in football was Pittsburgh's Steel Curtain," said Gansz. "They played consistently and unselfishly and that's the way we have to play. I think our guys can become famous, almost legendary. We can be that good."

The Chiefs secondary may be that good already. Safeties Lloyd Burruss and Deron Cherry were Pro Bowlers in '86, and left cornerback Albert Lewis should have been (his teammates voted him their MVP at the end of the season for his four interceptions, four blocked punts and outstanding run defense, which was all done with a torn rotator cuff in his shoulder that required offseason surgery). Kansas City has led the NFL in interceptions the last four years with 118, thanks in large part to Cherry's 30 in that span. Last year Burruss returned three of his five interceptions for touchdowns. With Kevin Ross at the right corner, all four starters had at least four interceptions.

Maybe the hardest task facing Gansz is being able to duplicate the Chiefs' special teams performance last year. Gansz was the kicking games coordinator, and he elevated the role to new heights. Kansas City blocked 11 kicks in 17 games, and scored six special teams' touchdowns. In the playoff clinching victory over Pittsburgh in the season's last week, all the Chiefs points came from the special teams (field goal, blocked punt for touchdown, blocked field goal for a touchdown and kickoff return for a touchdown).

Gansz's unit received the ultimate compliment in the wildcard playoff game against the Jets. After seeing one of punter Dave Jennings attempts blocked for a touchdown, New York took an intentional safety late in the game, just to make sure the Chiefs didn't block another one. The Jets were winning by 20 points at the time.

Kicker Nick Lowery continues to be one of the NFL's best, and rookie punter

■ *continued on page 219*

TEAM ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Exp.	College
5	**Colber**, Lewis	P	5-11	187	I	Auburn
8	**Lowery**, Nick	K	6-4	190	8	Dartmouth
9	**Kenney**, Bill	QB	6-4	211	9	Northern Colorado
10	**Seurer**, Frank	QB	6-1	195	2	Kansas
14	**Blackledge**, Todd	QB	6-3	225	5	Penn State
20	**Cherry**, Deron	FS	5-11	196	7	Rutgers
22	**Cocroft**, Sherman	S	6-1	187	3	San Jose State
23	**Hill**, Greg	CB	6-1	191	5	Oklahoma
24	**Pearson**, J.C.	CB	5-11	183	2	Washington
29	**Lewis**, Albert	CB	6-2	193	5	Grambling
30	**Robinson**, Mark	SS	5-11	202	4	Penn State
31	**Ross**, Kevin	CB	5-9	180	4	Temple
32	**Moriarty**, Larry	RB	6-1	237	5	Notre Dame
34	**Burruss**, Lloyd	SS	6-0	211	7	Maryland
40	**Green**, Boyce	RB	5-11	215	5	Carson-Newman
42	**Smith**, Jeff	RB	5-9	205	3	Nebraska
43	**Pruitt**, Mike	FB	6-0	224	12	Purdue
44	**Heard**, Herman	RB	5-10	184	4	Southern Colorado
47	**Smith**, Chris	FB	6-0	225	2	Notre Dame
48	**Garron**, Andre	RB	5-11	193	1	New Hampshire
51	**Donnalley**, Rick	C	6-2	255	6	North Carolina
54	**Cofield**, Timmy	OLB	6-2	236	1	Elizabeth City
55	**Cooper**, Louis	LB	6-2	238	3	Western Carolina
56	**Hackett**, Dino	ILB	6-3	220	1	Appalachian State
57	**Paul**, Whitney	OLB	6-4	219	12	Colorado
58	**Baugh**, Tom	C	6-3	274	1	Southern Illinois
59	**Spani**, Gary	ILB	6-2	222	10	Kansas State
61	**Adickes**, Mark	G	6-4	274	2	Baylor
63	**Maas**, Bill	NT	6-5	270	4	Pittsburgh
66	**Budde**, Brad	G	6-4	270	8	USC
67	**Still**, Art	DE	6-7	260	10	Kentucky
70	**Lathrop**, Kit	DE	6-5	260	4	Arizona State
72	**Lutz**, Dave	T	6-6	295	5	Georgia Tech
73	**Jozwiak**, Brian	T	6-5	301	1	West Virginia
74	**Koch**, Pete	DE	6-6	272	4	Maryland
75	**Eatman**, Irv	T	6-7	291	2	UCLA
76	**Alt**, John	T	6-7	282	4	Iowa
77	**Baldinger**, Rich	G-T	6-4	285	6	Wake Forest
80	**Fox**, Chas	WR	5-11	180	2	Furman
81	**Bergmann**, Paul	TE	6-2	235	1	UCLA
82	**Hancock**, Anthony	WR	6-0	200	6	Tennessee
83	**Paige**, Stephone	WR	6-2	191	5	Fresno State
84	**Coffman**, Paul	TE	6-3	225	10	Kansas State
85	**Hayes**, Jon	TE	6-5	235	3	Iowa
86	**Harry**, Emile	WR	5-11	175	2	Stanford
87	**Arnold**, Walt	TE	6-3	230	8	New Mexico
88	**Carson**, Carlos	WR	5-11	178	8	Louisana State
89	**Marshall**, Henry	WR	6-2	220	12	Missouri
91	**Baldinger**, Gary	DE	6-2	265	1	Wake Forest
92	**Harris**, Bob	LB	6-2	223	4	Auburn
93	**Hollie**, Eric	DT-NT	6-5	255	4	Texas
94	**McAlister**, Ken	OLB	6-5	210	5	San Francisco
96	**Pearson**, Aaron	ILB	6-0	235	1	Mississippi State
97	**Radecic**, Scott	ILB	6-3	245	4	Penn State
98	**Griffin**, Lenoard	DE	6-4	252	2	Grambling
99	**Bell**, Mike	DE	6-4	259	7	Colorado State

CHIEFS STATISTICS

TEAM STATISTICS	CHIEFS	OPPONENT
TOTAL FIRST DOWNS	264	310
Rushing	83	111
Passing	152	173
Penalty	29	26
3rd Down: Made/Att.(%)	74/220	80/224
4th Down: Made/Att.(%)	5/9	7/16
TOTAL NET YARDS	4218	4934
Avg. Per Game	263.6	308.4
Total Plays	1003	1098
Avg. Per Play	4.2	4.5
NET YARDS RUSHING	1468	1739
Avg. Per Game	91.8	108.7
Total Rushes	432	485
NET YARDS PASSING	2750	3195
Avg. Per Game	171.9	199.7
Tackled/Yards Lost	50/372	44/360
Gross Yards	3122	3555
Attempts/Completions	521/257	569/303
Pct. of Completions	49.3	53.3
Had Intercepted	18	31
PUNTS/AVERAGE	99/40.7	83/37.0
NET PUNTING AVG.	33.7	30.9
PENALTIES/YARDS	96/824	114/965
FUMBLES/BALL LOST	27/17	26/18
TOUCHDOWNS	43	38
Rushing	10	13
Passing	23	21
Returns	10	4

SCORE BY PERIODS	1	2	3	4	OT	Total
CHIEFS	67	113	83	95	0	358
Opp. Total	49	121	90	66	0	326

FIELD GOALS	1-19	20-29	30-39	40-49	50+	Total
N. Lowery	1-1	5-6	5-5	8-13	0-1	19-26

RUSHING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
M. Pruitt	139	448	3.2	16	2
B. Green	90	314	3.5	27	3
H. Heard	71	295	4.2	40	2

RECEIVING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
S. Paige	52	829	15.9	51	11
H. Marshall	46	652	14.2	31	1
J. Smith	33	230	7.0	18	3
C. Carson	21	497	23.7	70	4
W. Arnold	20	169	8.5	27	1

INTERCEPTIONS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
D. Cherry	9	150	16.7	49	0
L. Burruss	5	193	38.6	72	3
K. Ross	4	66	16.5	35	0

PUNTING	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TB	In 20	LG	Blk.
L. Colbert	99	4033	40.7	6	23	56	0

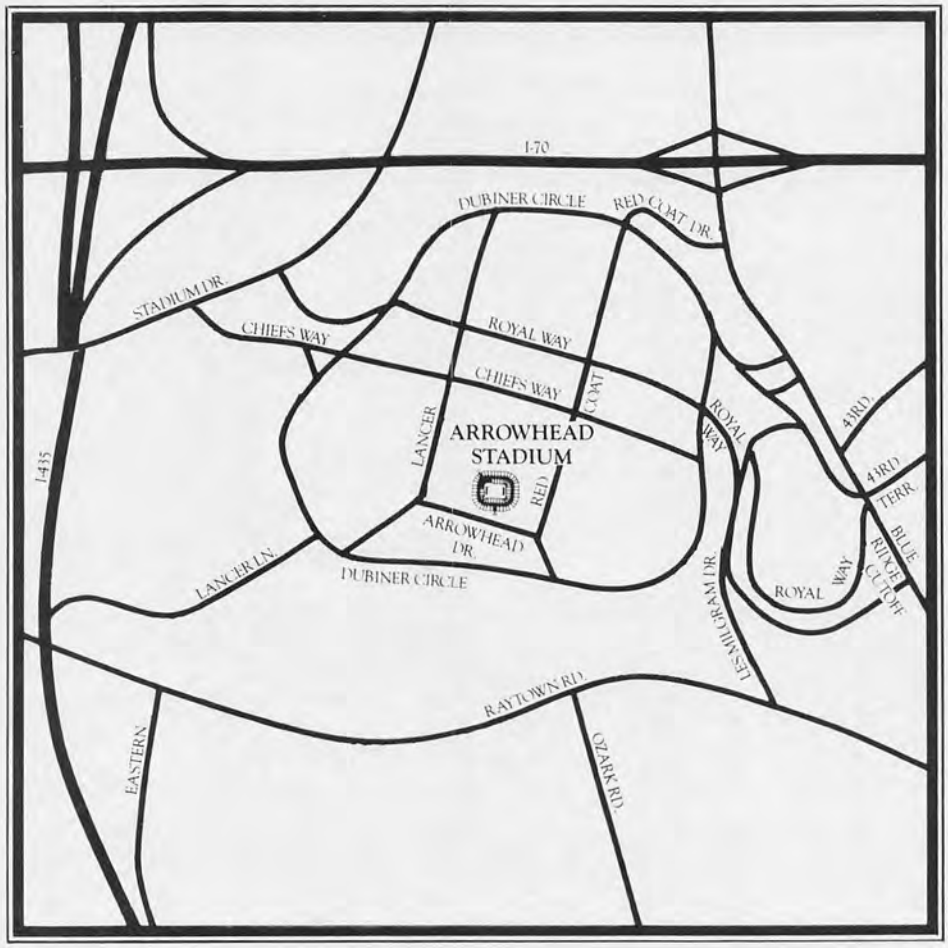
PUNT RETURNS	No.	FC	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
J. Smith	29	11	245	8.4	48	0
E. Harry	6	7	20	3.3	7	0

KICKOFF RETURNS	No.	Yds.	Avg.	LG	TD
J. Smith	29	557	19.2	29	0
B. Green	10	254	25.4	97	1

PASSING	Att.	Comp.	Yards	Pct.	Avg./Att.	TD	Pct.TD	Int.	Pct.Int.	LG	Lost/Att.	Rating
B. Kenney	308	161	1922	52.3	6.24	13	4.2	11	3.6	56	25/180	70.8
T. Blackledge	211	96	1200	45.5	5.69	10	4.7	6	2.8	70	25/192	67.6

CHIEFS DRAFT

Round	Name, Position	Size	College	College Accomplishments
1	Paul **PALMER** *TB-KR*	5-10, 185	**Temple**	Set 23 school & four NCAA records...'86 unanimous All-American...carried the ball 346 times for 1866 yds. (5.4 avg.) & 15 TD's, caught 12 passes for 110 yds.
2	Christian **OKOYE** *RB*	6-2, 255	**Azusa Pacific**	'86 first team All-NAIA...led division II runners with 1680 yds. on 235 carries (7.2 avg.) & 21 TD's in 9 games...named '86 Outstanding Performer at the NAIA National Outdoor Track Meet.
3	Todd **HOWARD** *OLB*	6-2, 235	**Texas A&M**	'86 second team All-SWC...81 tackles (53 solos)...1 fmb. cau. & a fmb. rec...5 sacks & 7 tackles for 22 yds. & losses...3 deflected passes.
5	Kitrick **TAYLOR** *WR-PR*	5-11, 181	**Washington St.**	'86 caught 27 passes for 523 yds. (19.4 avg.) with 9 TD's, returning 15 punts for an additional 161 yds. (10.7 avg.).
7	Doug **HUDSON** *QB*	6-3, 205	**Nicholls St.**	'86 first team All-Gulf Star Conf...league's Offensive Player of the Year...comp. 204 for 364 passes (56.0%) for 3053 yds. & 32 TD's.
8	Micheal **CLEMONS** *TB-KR*	5-5, 161	**William & Mary**	'86 first team All-ECAC...rushed for 1056 yds. on 223 carries (4.8 avg.) & 10 TD's...caught 72 passes for 516 yds. & 6 scores.
9	Randy **WATTS** *DE*	6-6, 278	**Catawba**	'86...93 tackles (38 solos), 5 sacks, 1 fmb. rec., 2 fmb. cau.
10	James **EVANS** *RB*	6-2, 220	**Southern U.**	'86 rushed for 681 yds. on 108 carries, 5 TD's, 14 recpts. for 83 yds., 1 TD.
11	Craig **RICHARDSON** *WR-KR*	5-11, 190	**E. Washington**	'86...34 recpts. for 559 yds. & 4 TD's, 25 kickoff returns for 692 yds. (27.8 avg.).
12	Bruce **HOLMES** *ILB*	6-2, 220	**Minnesota**	'86 first team All-Big 10...118 tackles (54 solos)...2 tackles for 15 yds. in losses with a sack...1 fmb. cau. & fmb. rec., 5 pass deflections & returned 3 int's for 44 yds.



KANSAS CITY

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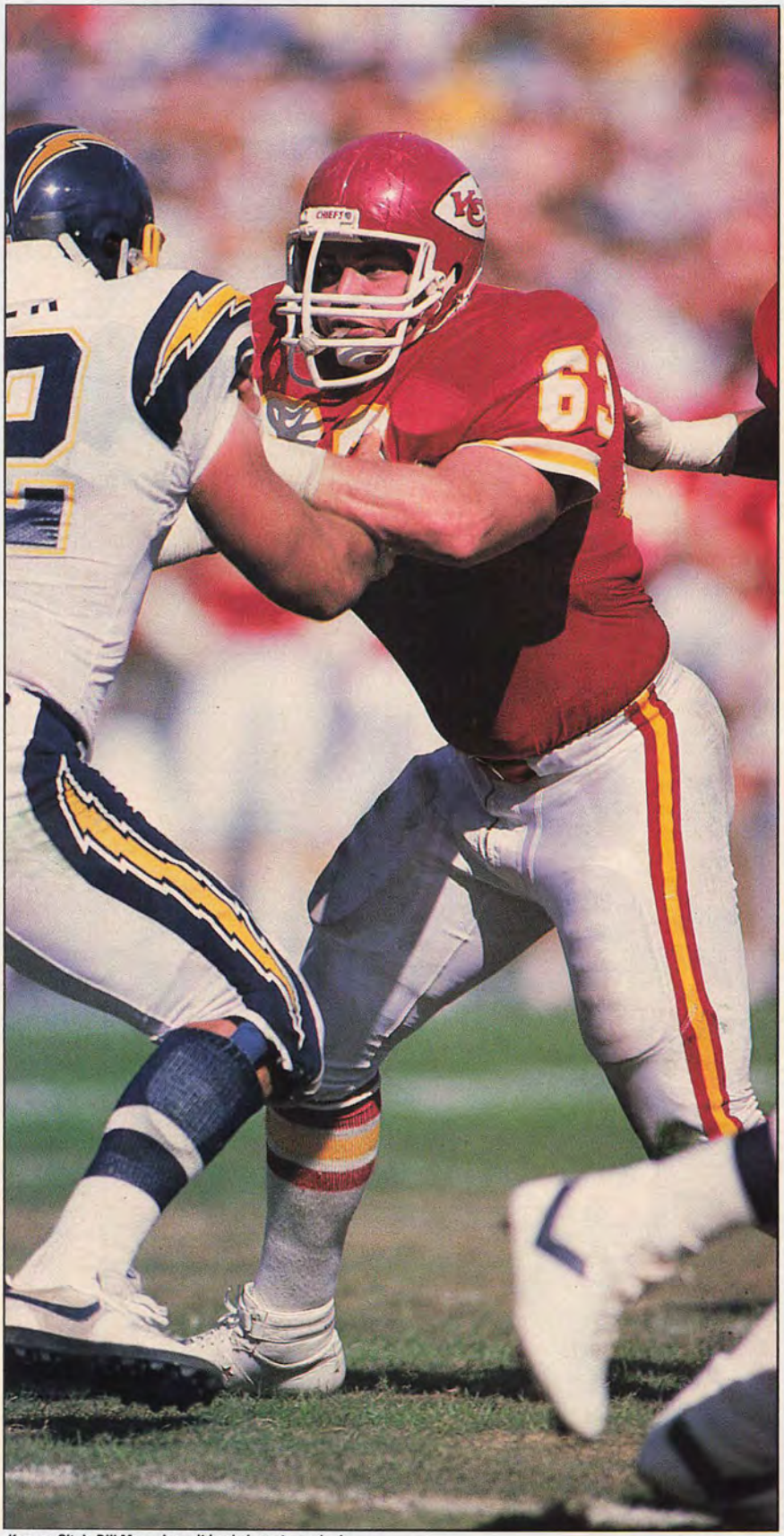
Chiefs' Deron Cherry intercepts a pass

Lewis Colbert had a solid season, averaging 40 yards a punt and dropping 23 inside the 20-yard line.

"Our special teams have to do the same sort of things," said Gansz. "I don't want to put limits on them and say they can't duplicate what happened, because who knows, maybe they can. Nobody thought they would do what they did."□



Kansas City's Bill Maas doesn't back down to anybody

NFL LEAGUE LEADERS

TOP TEN INTERCEPTORS

Name	Team	No.	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
LOTT, Ronnie	San Francisco 49ers	10	134	13.4	t57	1
CHERRY, Deron	Kansas City Chiefs	9	150	16.7	49	0
WAYMER, Dave	New Orleans Saints	9	48	5.3	17	0
LEE, Mark	Green Bay Packers	9	33	3.7	11	0
GRAY, Jerry	L.A. Rams	8	101	12.6	28	0
LIPPETT, Ronnie	New England Patriots	8	76	9.5	43	0
HOLT, Issiac	Minnesota Vikings	8	54	6.8	27	0
McELROY, Vann	L.A. Raiders	7	105	15.0	28	0
BREEDEN, Louis	Cincinnati Bengals	7	72	10.3	t36	1
RICHARDSON, Mike	Chicago Bears	7	69	9.9	32	0

TOP TEN PASS RECEIVERS

Name	Team	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
CHRISTENSEN, Todd	L.A. Raiders	95	1153	12.1	35	8
RICE, Jerry	San Francisco 49ers	86	1570	18.3	t66	15
TOON, Al	N.Y. Jets	85	1176	13.8	t62	8
MORGAN, Stanley	New England Patriots	84	1491	17.8	t44	10
CRAIG, Roger	San Francisco 49ers	81	624	7.7	48	0
SMITH, J.T.	St. Louis Cardinals	80	1014	12.7	45	6
ANDERSON, Gary	San Diego Chargers	80	871	10.9	t65	8
COLLINS, Tony	New England Patriots	77	684	8.9	49	5
WALKER, Herschel	Dallas Cowboys	76	837	11.0	t84	2
CLARK, Gary	Washington Redskins	74	1265	17.1	55	7

TOP TEN RECEIVERS BY YARDS

Name	Team	Yards	No	Avg	Long	TD
RICE, Jerry	San Francisco 49ers	1570	86	18.3	t66	15
MORGAN, Stanley	New England Patriots	1491	84	17.8	t44	10
DUPER, Mark	Miami Dolphins	1313	67	19.6	t85	11
CLARK, Gary	Washington Redskins	1265	74	17.1	55	7
TOON, Al	N.Y. Jets	1176	85	13.8	t62	8
CHRISTENSEN, Todd	L.A. Raiders	1153	95	12.1	35	8
CLAYTON, Mark	Miami Dolphins	1150	60	19.2	t68	10
BROOKS, Bill	Indianapolis Colts	1131	65	17.4	t84	8
HILL, Drew	Houston Oilers	1112	65	17.1	t81	5
LARGENT, Steve	Seattle Seahawks	1070	70	15.3	t38	9

TOP TEN PASSERS

Name	Team	Att	Comp	Comp	Yds	Gain	TD	Pct TD	Avg Long	Pct Int	Pct Int	Rating Points
KRAMER, Tommy	Minnesota Vikings	372	208	55.9	3000	8.06	24	6.5	t76	10	2.7	92.6
MARINO, Dan	Miami Dolphins	623	378	60.7	4746	7.62	44	7.1	t85	23	3.7	92.5
KRIEG, Dave	Seattle Seahawks	375	225	60.0	2921	7.79	21	5.6	t72	11	2.9	91.0
EASON, Tony	New England Patriots	448	276	61.6	3328	7.43	19	4.2	49	10	2.2	89.2
ESIASON, Boomer	Cincinnati Bengals	469	273	58.2	3959	8.44	24	5.1	57	17	3.6	87.7
O'BRIEN, Ken	N.Y. Jets	482	300	62.2	3690	7.66	25	5.2	t83	20	4.1	85.8
KOSAR, Bernie	Cleveland Browns	531	310	58.4	3854	7.26	17	3.2	t72	10	1.9	83.8
KELLY, Jim	Buffalo Bills	480	285	59.4	3593	7.49	22	4.6	t84	17	3.5	83.3
PLUNKETT, Jim	L.A. Raiders	252	133	52.8	1986	7.88	14	5.6	t81	9	3.6	82.5
MONTANA, Joe	San Francisco 49ers	307	191	62.2	2236	7.28	8	2.6	48	9	2.9	80.7

TOP TEN PUNTERS

Name	Team	No	Yards	Long	Avg	TP	TB	Blk	Opp Ret	Ret Yds	In 20	Net Avg
STARK, Rohn	Indianapolis Colts	76	3432	63	45.2	76	5	0	48	502	22	37.2
LANDETA, Sean	N.Y. Giants	79	3539	61	44.8	79	11	0	41	386	24	37.1
ROBY, Reggie	Miami Dolphins	56	2476	73	44.2	56	9	0	23	200	13	37.4
DONNELLY, Rick	Atlanta Falcons	78	3421	71	43.9	79	9	1	47	477	19	35.0
COX, Steve	Washington Redskins	75	3271	58	43.6	75	16	0	36	220	21	36.4
HANSEN, Brian	New Orleans Saints	81	3456	66	42.7	82	11	1	37	234	17	36.6
CAMARILLO, Rich	New England Patriots	89	3746	64	42.1	92	7	3	60	565	16	33.1
MOJSIEJENKO, Ralf	San Diego Chargers	72	3026	62	42.0	74	11	2	42	368	15	32.9
TELTSCHIK, John	Philadelphia Eagles	108	4493	62	41.6	109	10	1	62	631	20	33.6
RUNAGER, Max	San Francisco 49ers	83	3450	62	41.6	85	8	2	49	373	23	34.3

NFL LEAGUE LEADERS

TOP TEN RUSHERS

Name	Team	Att	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
DICKERSON, Eric	L.A. Rams	404	1821	4.5	t42	11
MORRIS, Joe	N.Y. Giants	341	1516	4.4	54	14
WARNER, Curt	Seattle Seahawks	319	1481	4.6	t60	13
MAYES, Rueben	New Orleans Saints	286	1353	4.7	50	8
PAYTON, Walter	Chicago Bears	321	1333	4.2	41	8
RIGGS, Gerald	Atlanta Falcons	343	1327	3.9	31	9
ROGERS, George	Washington Redskins	303	1203	4.0	42	18
BROOKS, James	Cincinnati Bengals	205	1087	5.3	t56	5
JACKSON, Earnest	Pittsburgh Steelers	216	910	4.2	31	5
JONES, James	Detroit Lions	252	903	3.6	39	8

TOP TEN LEADERS IN SACKS

Name	Team	No.	Name	Team	No.
TAYLOR, Lawrence	N.Y. Giants	20.5	**JONES**, Rulon	Denver Broncos	13.5
MANLEY, Dexter	Washington Redskins	18.5	**O'NEAL**, Leslie	San Diego Chargers	12.5
WHITE, Reggie	Philadelphia Eagles	18.0	**HALEY**, Charles	San Francisco 49ers	12.0
JONES, Sean	L.A. Raiders	15.5	**MARSHALL**, Leonard	N.Y. Giants	12.0
SMITH, Bruce	Buffalo Bills	15.0	**GREEN**, Jacob	Seattle Seahawks	12.0
WILLIAMS, Lee	San Diego Chargers	15.0	**WILLIS**, Keith	Pittsburgh Steelers	12.0
JEFFCOAT, Jim	Dallas Cowboys	14.0			

TOP TEN SCORERS—NON-KICKERS

Name	Team	TD	TDR	TDP	TDM	PTS
ROGERS, George	Washington Redskins	18	18	0	0	108
RICE, Jerry	San Francisco 49ers	16	1	15	0	96
MORRIS, Joe	N.Y. Giants	15	14	1	0	90
WALKER, Herschel	Dallas Cowboys	14	12	2	0	84
WINDER, Sammy	Denver Broncos	14	9	5	0	84
WARNER, Curt	Seattle Seahawks	13	13	0	0	78
HAMPTON, Lorenzo	Miami Dolphins	12	9	3	0	72
WALKER, Wesley	N.Y. Jets	12	0	12	0	72
DICKERSON, Eric	L.A. Rams	11	11	0	0	66
DUPER, Mark	Miami Dolphins	11	0	11	0	66
PAIGE, Stephone	Kansas City Chiefs	11	0	11	0	66
PAYTON, Walter	Chicago Bears	11	8	3	0	66

TOP TEN SCORERS—KICKERS

Name	Team	XP	XPA	FG	FGA	PTS
FRANKLIN, Tony	New England Patriots	44	45	32	41	140
BUTLER, Kevin	Chicago Bears	36	37	28	41	120
WERSCHING, Ray	San Francisco 49ers	41	42	25	35	116
NELSON, Chuck	Minnesota Vikings	44	47	22	28	110
ANDERSON, Morten	New Orleans Saints	30	30	26	30	108
JOHNSON, Norm	Seattle Seahawks	42	42	22	35	108
ALLEGRE, Raul	N.Y. Giants	33	33	24	32	105
KARLIS, Rich	Denver Broncos	44	45	20	28	104
BREECH, Jim	Cincinnati Bengals	50	51	17	32	101
LOWERY, Nick	Kansas City Chiefs	43	43	19	26	100

TOP TEN KICKOFF RETURNERS

Name	Team	No	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
GENTRY, Dennis	Chicago Bears	20	576	28.8	t91	1
GRAY, Mel	New Orleans Saints	31	866	27.9	t101	1
SANCHEZ, Lupe	Pittsburgh Steelers	25	591	23.6	64	0
McGEE, Tim	Cincinnati Bengals	43	1007	23.4	94	0
HUMPHREY, Bobby	N.Y. Jets	28	655	23.4	t96	1
BELL, Ken	Denver Broncos	23	531	23.1	42	0
SIKAHEMA, Vai	St. Louis Cardinals	37	847	22.9	44	0
LANG, Gene	Denver Broncos	21	480	22.9	42	0
BESS, Rufus	Minnesota Vikings	31	705	22.7	43	0
EDMONDS, Bobby J.	Seattle Seahawks	34	764	22.5	46	0

TOP TEN PUNT RETURNERS

Name	Team	No	FC	Yards	Avg	Long	TD
EDMONDS, Bobby J.	Seattle Seahawks	34	14	419	12.3	t75	1
SIKAHEMA, Vai	St. Louis Cardinals	43	16	522	12.1	t71	2
WILLHITE, Gerald	Denver Broncos	42	8	468	11.1	t70	1
FRYAR, Irving	New England Patriots	35	10	366	10.5	t59	1
GRIFFIN, Don	San Francisco 49ers	38	18	377	9.9	t76	1
MANDLEY, Pete	Detroit Lions	43	9	420	9.8	t81	1
JENKINS, Ken	Washington Redskins	28	11	270	9.6	39	0
STANLEY, Walter	Green Bay Packers	33	7	316	9.6	t83	1
MARTIN, Eric	New Orleans Saints	24	9	227	9.5	39	0
ANDERSON, Gary	San Diego Chargers	25	10	227	9.1	30	0

PAUL HORNUNG

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halfback, I could.''

The very next season the Packers turned it around with a 7-5 record, Hornung led the NFL in scoring with 94 points and Lombardi was voted the league's ''Coach of the Year.''

The dynasty had begun.

In 1960, with Hornung scoring a still-record 176 points in 12 games, the Packers had an 8-4 record and went all the way to the league championship game before losing to the Philadelphia Eagles 17-13.

With all due respect to quarterback Bart Starr's passing, the Packers' meat-and-potatoes play was the famed sweep, in which either Hornung or Taylor would follow the blocking of pulling guards Jerry Kramer and Fuzzy Thurston.

As the Packers rolled to an 11-3 record and the NFL title in 1961, Hornung again led the league in scoring, this time with 146 points that included a team-record 33 against Baltimore.

In a 37-0 victory over the Giants in the championship game, Hornung scored 19 points despite the fact that since Nov. 14, he had been available only for weekend duty because of military service.

The Packers came back in 1962 to successfully defend their title with a 13-1 season capped by another win over the Giants in the championship game, this time by 16-7.

''I'll always think that '62 team was our best one,'' Hornung said. ''We scored at will, averaging more than 30 points a game, while our defense only gave up seven or eight. We only lost once and that was a fluke to a great defensive team at Detroit.''

But then came the bombshell: Hornung and Alex Karras, a defensive tackle for Detroit, were given indefinite suspensions by commissioner Pete Rozelle for gambling on pro and college games.

The news crushed Lombardi, even though Hornung insisted that he had never bet against the Packers. Hornung cooperated fully with Rozelle's office about his own gambling, but refused to talk about other players who he knew also were betting.

Because he felt almost personally responsible for the Packers' lack of a championship team in his suspended year of 1963, Hornung reported to camp in the best shape of his career after Rozelle lifted the suspension.

He got off to a fast start in 1964, scoring almost 100 points in the first four games, but then suffered a knee injury that hurt his kicking as well as his running.

In two pivotal games against Baltimore, Hornung missed an extra point in a 14-13 loss, then later missed five field goals in a 24-21 defeat. And once again the Packers failed to win the title.

Still hobbled by injuries in 1965, Hornung nevertheless scored five TDs in an important late-season victory over the Colts.

And in the famed ''Snow Bowl'' championship game against the Cleveland Browns, he and Taylor pounded the frozen tundra of Green Bay's Lambeau Field for 211 yards in a 23-12 victory in which Hornung scored the clinching touchdown on a 13-yard run.

That was to be The Golden Boy's last hurrah. As the Packers rolled to a second straight title in 1966—their fourth in six years—Hornung saw limited duty and scored only five touchdowns the entire season.

In his final game in a Packers' uniform, the injured Hornung stayed on the sideline and watched his buddy McGee catch two touchdown passes in the Packers' 35-10 victory over the Kansas City Chiefs in Super Bowl I.

After Hornung's retirement, Lombardi talked about him with Arthur Daley of the New York Times.

''Hornung was the best clutch player ever,'' Lombardi said. ''The more important the game, the better he was. And he lifted the whole team to extra effort because he seemed to have an extra supply of it when the chips were down.''

Today, as much as Hornung still enjoys telling stories and talking about sports, he hardly fits the stereotype of the ex-jock who hangs around the bars and bores everybody with yarns about what he did in the good old days.

He discovered soon after his retirement that not only is there life after football, but that it can be even more comfortable. The man who never made more than $68,000 a year from the Packers now may be worth $3 million or more.

His longtime business partnership with entrepreneur Frank Metts has led to lucrative ventures that include a real estate trust, apartment buildings, condominiums, shopping malls, office buildings, and renovating the old Seagram's distillery into a commercial complex.

Hornung's role is mostly in the area of sales. Even the major executives in an outfit as big as, say, Nabisco are impressed to sit down at a conference table and talk business, not to mention a little football, with ''The Golden Boy.''

For his part, Hornung feels just as at home in the sales arena as he did any football stadium. He always was good on his feet, you know. And after a little razzle-dazzle from old No. 5, the business guys are chuckling and signing contracts.

When he's not closing deals or doing TV shows, Hornung likes to play golf either with his cronies at the Audubon Country Club or his gorgeous wife, the former Angela Cerelli, who had just been fired as a secretary to the Philadelphia Eagles' coach when Hornung met her in 1976.

They share a condominium in eastern Jefferson County, along with a love for golf, pro football, art, travel, fine restaurants, good times, old friends and Louisville. Says Hornung, ''She's been the best thing that ever happened to me...You can't keep it in second gear all your life.''

But Hornung never has thrown it into reverse, either. All his life, it seems, everything he has touched has turned to, well, gold. Once, in a conversation about reincarnation, Hornung was asked what he would like to be in his next life.

''Are you crazy?'' said Hornung, laughing. ''Paul Hornung. It hasn't been too bad so far.''□

DRAFT ANALYSIS

continued from page 186

defensive lineman, and defensive back Ron Francis of Baylor at the top of the draft. Noonan will be groomed as the successor to Randy White, who is nearing the end of the line. White, John Dutton and Too Tall Jones are getting Too Long in the Tooth, and the Cowboys hope Noonan will provide a better pass rush.

3. New York—With the best 45-man roster in football already, how many choices can make the Giants' team anyhow? The top two should, wide receiver Mark Ingram of Michigan State and defensive back Adrian White of Florida. They fit the Parcells mold, with a combination of athletic ability and toughness.

4. St. Louis—The Cardinals get this spot over Washington by default. The consensus around the league after the draft was that St. Louis blew a golden opportunity by taking quarterback Kelly Stouffer of Colorado State with the sixth pick in the first round. Most people feel Stouffer is a project, the kind of kid it will take two or three years to get ready to play, and the Cards let players like Brown, Woodson, Rogers and Dozier pass by them to do it.

5. Washington—The Redskins didn't have a first round pick, so this was a quiet draft for the usually active Bobby Beathard, Washington's general manager. Beathard tried to give depth to the spots where he needed it by taking defensive back Brad Davis on the first round and lineman Wally Kliene of Notre Dame next.

Central Division

1. Best in Show: Tampa Bay—How could they miss with 19 draft picks, a half dozen more than anyone else (through a series of trades) and getting Vinny Testaverde on top. New head coach Ray Perkins was determined to start building "his" team in this draft, trading away guard Sean Farrell to New England after he said he didn't want to play in Tampa Bay, and moving quarterback Steve Young to San Francisco so there would not be any quarterback controversies.

2. Minnesota—Made one of the better moves in the draft, trading up to get Penn State's Dozier, one of the most sought after players in the draft. "We always try to get a dominant player," says Viking general manager Mike Lynn. "We were thinking defense going in, but when we had a chance to get Dozier we went after it."

3. Detroit—Went right down to the last minute trying to choose between Reggie Rogers and Jerome Brown, still on the drafting board when it was the Lions turn to pick. Rogers was taken because he is considered to be more of an outside pass rusher compared to Brown, who has played nose tackle. After years of looking to offense, the Lions came around to defense and hope they made the right choice.

Tampa Bay—How could they miss with 19 draft picks, a half dozen more than anyone else (through a series of trades) and getting Vinny Testaverde on top.

4. Green Bay—Thought they had it made until Houston put the gun to their head at a moments notice. The Packers wanted running back Alonzo Highsmith of Miami, considered the best all-around back and a nice guy, as their top choice, fourth overall in the draft. However, Houston pulled the coup, trading in front of Green Bay to take Highsmith, and forcing the Packers into Brent Fullwood of Auburn, rated the best pure runner in the draft.

5. Chicago—The Bears will battle St. Louis for the Worst in Show in this draft, taking Jim Harbaugh, a quarterback from Michigan, with their first pick. Every other team had Harbaugh rated a third or fourth round choice, so even if the Bears coveted him, they could have gotten him further down the line. Chicago now has five quarterbacks, Jim McMahon, Doug Flutie, Steve Fuller, Mike Tomczak and Harbaugh. "We will only keep three, so we have to get rid of two," said Mike Ditka, who wanted a lineman on the first round, but didn't get his way.

Western Division

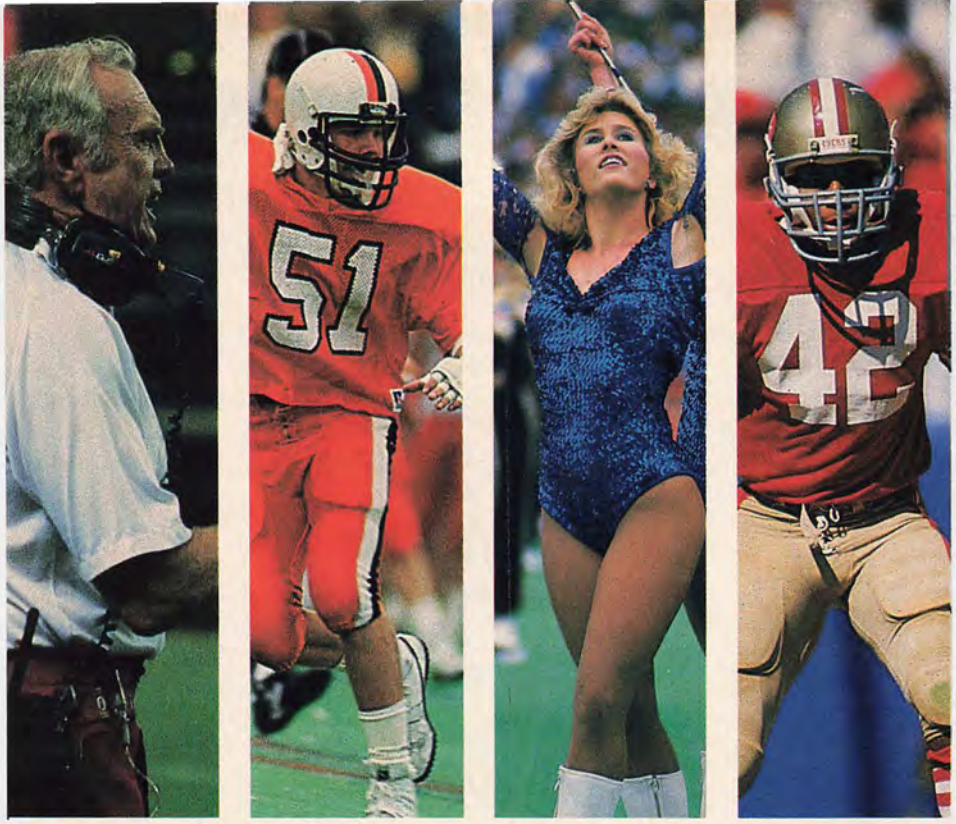
1. Best in Show: San Francisco—Bill Walsh had a collection of draft picks from a year ago and used them to get Young from Tampa Bay, Harris Barton from North Carolina, and running back Terence Flagler from Clemson. Young was the best quarterback available (as insurance for comebacking Joe Montana), many considered Barton, who can play either center, guard or tackle as the best offensive lineman, and Flagler is a top running prospect who can catch.

2. Atlanta—New head coach Marion Campbell did a nice job, making a tough decision on the fly, and coming out of it well. Campbell really wanted a combination running back/quarterback of the first two picks, but never thought Dozier would be available to him. Still, Campbell let Dozier pass, taking quarterback Chris Miller of Oregon first, and then claiming running back Kenny Flowers of Clemson second. Most had Flowers projected as a first rounder, so in a sense, Atlanta wound up with two first round choices.

3. New Orleans—General manager Jim Finks likes to control the line of scrimmage with first round choices. He did it when he was building up the Minnesota teams of the 1970's, and the Bears teams of the 1980's, before moving on to New Orleans. Finks took defensive lineman Shawn Knight of BYU first, and then selected wide receiver Lonzell Hill of Washington next, filling two big needs with two fine players.

4. Los Angeles—The poor Rams didn't have a chance in this one. They traded their draft away in the middle of the 1986 season, when they made the deal to bring quarterback Jim Everett into their organization. Johnny Robinson doesn't regret it for a minute. "We'll be throwing the ball more than ever," said Robinson, "because we got the people to throw it and catch it."

Let the season begin.□



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